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(AP) - Jordanian newspaper reports that the king has ordered a state of emergency in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

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Cabinet approves JD 1,105m budget
AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Saturday approved a 1990 draft budget totalling JD 1,105,812,000, Minister of Finance Basil Jaradat announced. The deficit amounts to JD 199 million, he said. The draft budget law will be forwarded to Parliament for approval, Minister of Information Nasouh Majali said. Jaradat disclosed that allocations for education were increased by JD 4.6 million to JD 93 million, and health by JD 3.6 million to JD 21.8 million. Jaradat said the budget deficit would be covered by development loans expected to reach \$317 million. Jaradat said that domestic revenue is projected at JD 694 million in 1990, 17 per cent up from 1989 figure of JD 589 million. As for recurrent expenditure, Jaradat said it amounts to JD 97 million, including JD 60 million for subsidies. He stressed that the budget did not include allocations for the increase of civil servants' salaries. During Saturday's session, the Cabinet decided to retire Tareq Alsedditi, Khalid Tarawneh and Daoud Hannanli following their appointment as Senate members.

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A demonstrator passing a poster of Alexander Dubcek on a statue in Prague. The sign below says "Cross your finger".

Czech-out time for Communist leaders

PRAGUE (Agencies) — Czechoslovakia's Communist rulers plunged deeper into crisis Saturday. Two leading members of a newly formed politburo were forced to quit as hundreds of thousands of people staged a mass protest for the ninth successive day. Miloslav Stepan and Miloslav Zavadil resigned only hours after being reelected to the ruling politburo at a 16-hour central committee meeting ending in the early morning hours, state radio reported. The Prague city party organization, which Stepan heads, forced them to quit by condemning their reelection and calling for an emergency national party congress to bring in more reformers. In Slovakia, party members were rebelling against the reelection of a third politburo member, Jozef Lenart, state television said. Karel Urbanek, who replaced Milos Jakes as party leader in the overnight upheaval, told a meeting of the Prague party there as no time to lose. The 48-year-old leader, bags of fatigue under his eyes testifying to the strain of events, praised the open criticism expressed at the meeting and said if it had come sooner the party would be in a better position. "We must not be afraid to say: 'I am a Communist,'" declared Urbanek, a grey-haired figure in a grey suit. At a Prague parade ground, more than 300,000 people massed in the biggest popular show of strength in Czechoslovakia's 71-year history, heard playwright Vaclav Havel, a leading opposition figure, denounce the new politburo. Havel said the civic forum, the leading opposition group, has amassed hundreds of thousands of backers over the past week and would insist on negotiating more democracy with the politburo. The huge rally Saturday started earlier when thousands of people gathered outside Gothic St. Vitus Cathedral, Roman Catholic Cardinal Frantisek Tomasek urged "moderation and patience." "We haven't won yet," said a poster in a shop window on Wenceslas Square as people stood in line to buy newspapers to read of the party shake-up. Earlier, official media reported only that Jakes had been replaced by Urbanek and that the central committee adopted a reform programme that envisioned new laws on assembly, association, the press, education and defence. But a draft law on the press published recently, for instance, foresaw stiff fines for simply passing on unauthorised publications. Zdenek Horeni, editor in chief of Rude Pravo, told a news conference Saturday the party envisioned changing the constitutional article that guarantees the leading role of Communists in government. But party officials previously have indicated the Communists will remain in control. The new politburo seemed largely to consist of stalwart Communists and it was uncertain whether they would provide the democratic reform sought by protesters in the past week. Jan Urban, chief spokesman of Civic Forum, told the British Broadcasting Corporation earlier from Prague that the new members were all "very experienced apparatus people with no idea of reformist thinking. ... There's nothing to be satisfied with." Jakes was the third East bloc leader to fall from power in five weeks. All were hardliners who resisted the reforms instituted by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. In the shakeup, seven members lost their seats. In addition to Jakes, those ousted included Gustav Husak, Alois Indra, Karel Hoffman and ideology chief Jan Fojtik — all of whom were directly responsible for the Soviet-led crackdown on the "Prague spring" reforms of 1968. Although Husak lost his seat, he retains his title as president for now. Premier Ladislav Adamec also lost his politburo seat, meaning a new premier will likely be named soon. The seventh politburo member removed was Frantisek Pitta.

King, Mubarak review peace efforts

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches
AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak exchanged views Saturday about efforts to bring about an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Osama Al Baz, political adviser to Mubarak, handed King Hussein a letter from the Egyptian leader dealing with "the special stage regarding exerted efforts to secure a Palestinian-Israeli meeting." The King gave Baz a message to Mubarak "that included his opinion regarding these efforts and his evaluation of all the facts related to them," Petra said. The King's message also contained an assessment of the developments in Lebanon and other major issues in the region, Petra said. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Tuesday delivered its response to a five-point plan proposed by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker for Palestinians and Israelis to meet for their first formal face-to-face talks. The PLO's answer was given to Egypt. Israel has provisionally accepted the Baker points but insists the PLO must be excluded from the talks which it says must deal only with the Zionist state's plan for Palestinian elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The PLO insists on having the right to form a Palestinian delegation from inside and outside the occupied territories for these talks, that the joint dialogue should have an open agenda and that they lead to an international peace conference. Jordan has said it will back the PLO in whatever it sees best to realise its aims. Israeli Vice-Premier Shimon Peres said Saturday that Israel should invest in helping new immigrants instead of holding onto the occupied Gaza Strip warning that the deadlock in Middle East peace efforts was bringing "despair."

Peres also said on army radio that his Labour Party may resign from and topple Israel's coalition government unless peace talks were soon started with Palestinians. If Israel showed more flexibility in U.S.-backed Middle East peace efforts, talks with Palestinians could begin "in a matter of weeks or months," Peres added. Peres accused Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir of the right-wing Likud bloc of failing to move forward in resolving the Palestinian problem. He referred to Shamir's 10-day visit to the United States, France and Italy which ended Friday, saying: "The prime minister's trip didn't change the situation. If you will, it emphasised that what some people thought were clouds gathering before the storm, are in fact the shadows that come in the wake of despair." "The map has to be read correctly... if the Likud remains obstinate as before, we will barely be able to sit together," he added. "If the national unity government stands in place, it will have no place." Peres, who has repeatedly said he would resign over lack of movement in Middle East diplomacy, did not elaborate on his current threat. If he resigns, the government could fall and this would likely bring early national elections which are scheduled for 1992. The shaky Labour-Likud coalition was forged after inconclusive national elections to parliament last year. The parties differ over what "concessions" Israel should make the Arabs with Labour favouring territorial compromise, and Likud objecting to giving back any land. In the interview Peres also hinted at a longstanding Labour party proposal that Israel break the Middle East deadlock by granting "autonomy" unilaterally to Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. "The government must advance towards peace and (economic) growth. Between holding onto the Gaza Strip and absorbing immigrants from the Soviet Union and Ethiopia, absorption comes first," Peres said. "We have to decide real priorities, not illusory ones." "Gaza isn't territory, Gaza is Arab population, which to maintain we need a lot of means. It costs a very high price," he added. "Just because some party waves the banner of not giving up one inch, does this mean we have to do the world's silliest things?" Regarding American efforts to arrange an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue about an Israeli elections proposal for the occupied territories, Peres said: "In my opinion it is possible to reach the opening of dialogue with Palestinians in a matter of weeks or months. This also depends on us, not only us, but also on us." Shamir acknowledged on his return Friday that his elections plan had hit some obstacles. But he said on Israel television that "despite the difficulties this process will in the end be carried out and implemented."

King hails election of Lebanese president

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein said Saturday the election of Lebanese President Elias Hrawi demonstrated that Lebanon was capable of overcoming its crisis. "Your election at such a critical time in the country's history reflects the Lebanese people's adherence to their country's unity and sovereignty on its national soil," the King told Hrawi in a congratulatory cable. "I wish you all luck in your noble mission and I pray to God that unity, peace and security return to Lebanon," said the message, carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra. Information Minister Nasouh Al Majali, in a statement given to Reuters, described Hrawi's election as a decisive step to salvage Lebanon and its destiny. "As much as we felt sorry over the loss of Muawad, we appreciate this quick action achieved by the deputies to block the road in the face of criminal parties that sought to create a constitutional vacuum there," Majali said.

Hrawi, Aoun lock horns

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Newly-elected President Elias Hrawi was locked on a collision course with army chief Michel Aoun after sacking him as interim premier Saturday and forming a reconciliation government to end 14 years of civil war. Slain President Rene Muawad was buried as stores, offices and businesses closed for a nationwide day of mourning in both eastern and western areas in a rare display of national unity. Hrawi, 64, dismissed Aoun's interim military cabinet before dawn and formed a national unity government with members from Lebanon's seven major sects to try to end the civil war. The new government under Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss was appointed eight hours after Hrawi was elected president in a late-night parliament session at a hotel in Chitouna in east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. Hoss' cabinet is to oversee implementation of an Arab League-brokered plan to introduce political reforms aimed at ending the civil war, which has killed more than 150,000 people. 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New Lebanese president gets international support

NICOSIA (R) — Arab and foreign governments welcomed the swift election of new Lebanese President Elias Hrawi and renewed calls for peace following the assassination of his predecessor.

"Your election is proof that those who (killed) President Rene Muawad failed to block the way to peace," Syrian President Hafez Al Assad said in a telegram to Hrawi after the vote by the Lebanese parliament Friday.

The congratulations from Damascus, the main foreign power broker in Lebanon, were followed by messages of support from foreign as well as from other Arab governments.

U.S. President George Bush urged all Lebanese to unite behind Hrawi, a Maronite Christian who faced immediate opposition from military commander Michel Aoun, who controls the Falangist enclave.

"Those who do not (support Hrawi) will only isolate themselves further from the Lebanese people and the international community," a House spokes-

man said. Saudi Arabia issued a statement expressing "full backing for the step taken by the deputies to maintain Lebanese legitimacy and continue reconciliation moves."

Riyadh helped to draft an Arab-sponsored peace plan which Muawad, who was blown to bits by a bomb in Beirut Wednesday after just 17 days as president, was trying to implement.

The plan aims to end 14 years of fighting by giving more political power to Muslims.

The Arab League's U.N. observer, Clovis Makoud said in New York that Hrawi "deserves all the support that the international community can provide."

Algerian President President Chadli Benjedid cabled congra-

tulations to Hrawi and Bahrain's Emir, Sheikh Isa bin Sulman Al Khalifa, said he hoped the election "will achieve the Lebanese people's dreams for security, stability and peace."

Newspapers in Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates also hailed Hrawi.

"There is no alternative to him," said Kuwait's Al Watan paper. "He is legality for his people, the Arabs and the world."

But media in Iraq, Syria's arch-rival in the Arab World, reported Hrawi's election without comment. Iraq has supplied Aoun with weapons in the past.

Britain said it welcomed Hrawi's election and hoped it would lead to the rebuilding of the country free of foreign forces.

Iran's Tehran Times said the Lebanese conflict would not be solved as long as the president had to be a Maronite, as specified in the peace plan.

The paper, quoted by Iranian News Agency IRNA monitored in Cyprus, said in an editorial that

no sectarian government would be able to end Lebanon's civil war.

French President Francois Mitterrand Saturday sent a low-key message of good wishes to Hrawi.

"I send you my wishes of success in your great mission and a message of friendship from the people of France to the Lebanese people, in the hope that they will regain peace in unity and reconciliation," Mitterrand said.

Mitterrand has personally led France's effort to focus international attention on the civil war in Lebanon, which France ruled between the two world wars.

His message appeared guarded and in sharp contrast to France's enthusiastic approval of Muawad when he was elected on Nov. 5.

Egypt joined other Arab states in sending a message of good wishes to Hrawi.

"On this occasion, I reiterate Egypt's support to the brotherly Lebanese people in their crisis," President Hosni Mubarak said in a message carried by the national Middle East News Agency.

Only the brave seek Lebanon's presidency

BEIRUT (R) — Amid the violence of Lebanon, only the brave aspire to the job of president.

Since the country plunged into civil war 14 years ago two such men have been blown to pieces — the latest last Wednesday — by professional killers.

Maronite Christian Rene Muawad, 64, was assassinated in mainly Muslim West Beirut by a remote-controlled bomb just 17 days after taking office.

Seven years earlier, a president-elect was murdered before he could take up office.

Other, lucky, politicians have survived several attempts on their lives, while determined assassins have defeated security measures taken by others.

Even among Lebanon's parliamentary deputies, hailed overseas for their courage in meeting to elect a president, some were not willing to take that particular risk and run for

presidency. "My wife told me if I run for the post, she would ask for a divorce," one deputy, who refused to be named, was quoted as saying.

Deputy Pierre Helou, widely considered to be front runner for president, withdrew from the race. He said he did so because of pressure from his family which did not want him to risk his life.

Underlining the dangers of Lebanon's political life, hundreds of Syrian and Lebanese troops deployed in the eastern town of Chataura Friday to guard 52 members of parliament meeting to elect deputy Elias Hrawi as successor to Muawad.

Motorists and pedestrians were not allowed to move through the area.

Journalists were allowed inside the hotel only minutes before the start of electoral session. Security men carried out rigorous body searches.

Cameras, taperecorders and pens were inspected for fear of explosives.

Some Muslim extremists as well as the powerful Christian army commander Michel Aoun strongly oppose the Arab peace plan under which the president was being elected. Aoun scornfully dismissed Muawad as a Syrian puppet and then turned the election of Hrawi "a comedy".

Security fears have driven most politicians into armoured limousines. Most are always escorted by bodyguards and tight security measures are taken around their houses.

But the assassins many times manage to reach their targets. Military experts say they get through because they are professionals who used advanced methods to accomplish their missions.

"Streets were cut off and emptied during his (Muawad) moves, but who could have

guessed that a 250 kilogramme bomb would be placed inside a store at the highway," said one security expert.

Soldiers and bodyguards guarded Muawad's residence in Beirut, chosen for the fact it was only 50 metres from the main headquarters of the 7,000 Syrian troops who police the Western sector of the capital.

Roads were closed around the apartment which was shielded by steel sheets and bullet-proof glass and Muawad, blown apart Wednesday, was armoured and escorted by police cars.

In 1982, president-elect Bashir Gemayel was killed when a bomb destroyed a three-storey building over his head. Like Muawad's body, that of Gemayel could not be recognised until well after the explosion because of severe mutilation.

Gemayel's body was identified by his wedding ring.

Bomb on board Saudi Jumbo fails to explode

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia said a loose wire saved one of its airliners, carrying more than 300 people, from a time-bomb planted on board.

"God willing, the connection wire was loose and the timing stopped," Saudi Arabian Airlines said in a statement carried by the official Saudi Press Agency Saturday.

The aircraft, carrying 343 passengers and crew, made an emergency landing at Karachi, Pakistan, after authorities in Islamabad said they received a telephone warning of bombs on board.

Karachi police said they had arrested three Pakistani passengers. No other details were given.

The airline spokesman, who was not named, said the person who warned of the bomb asked for \$15 million.

However, the airline said the warning was contained in a letter and had no reference to a telephone call.

There was no immediate explanation for the discrepancies. "Security employees received a letter that a bomb and a terrorist to detonate it are on board and requested payment of \$15 million to be placed in three bags in places in Islamabad," the airline said.

"It was an absurd demand. Nobody carried such a big amount round the clock," said a police official in Karachi, adding that it

was unclear how blackmailers intended to tell bombers aboard the plane that cash had been paid.

Some Pakistani newspapers suggested the incident was a failed attempt by suicide terrorists to extort \$15 million.

The Boeing 747 was flying from Islamabad to Riyadh Thursday night when the warning was received. The pilot was ordered to land at Karachi and the plane was surrounded by ambulances and firefighting teams as passengers were evacuated.

The Jumbo jet was searched and two sticks of dynamite weighing four ounces (110 grams) found in baggage, police said. A detonator made from a cigarette lighter, matchbox and batteries was also discovered.

Bombs have been planted in Saudi Airline offices in Karachi several times during the past three years, killing two people and causing extensive damage.

Saudi targets have also been attacked since the kingdom last September executed 16 Kuwaiti pro-Iranian Shi'ites convicted of being involved in bombings of the annual Muslim pilgrimage in Mecca during July.

A Pakistani pilgrim was killed and 16 Muslims were wounded. In a televised confession one of the bombers said he obtained the explosives from the Iranian embassy in Kuwait. Iran denied the allegations.

Iraqi defence minister in Bahrain for talks

BAHRAIN (R) — Iraqi Defence Minister General Abdul-Jabbar Shanshal arrived in Bahrain Saturday on his first reported visit to this Gulf island since a ceasefire came into force in the Iran-Iraq war in August last year.

The Gulf News Agency quoted Shanshal as saying on arrival his visit was aimed at boosting cooperation between the two nations' armed forces.

General Shanshal's visit is at the invitation of Bahrain's Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

Bahrain is a member of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) which generally supported Baghdad during the

eight-year-old Gulf war. The Saudi Arabian-led alliance also groups Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

General Shanshal discussed financial and banking activities with Bahrain monetary agency Governor Abdullah Seif, the news agency said. The meeting was attended by Bahrain's Defence Minister Sheikh Khalifa bin Ahmad Al Khalifa.

Bahrain and Iraq upgraded a joint economic committee to ministerial level earlier this year. In September the two countries signed an agreement aimed at boosting financial, commercial and technical ties.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Kuwait defence minister in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah, on his first official visit to Cairo, praised Egypt's arms industry Saturday and called for further military cooperation. "Egyptian-made weapons were tested in Kuwait and experts said they match weapons made by advanced nations," Sheikh Nawaf told reporters after talks here with his Egyptian counterpart General Yousef Sabri Abu Taleb. Egypt hopes to boost sales from its arms industry, the most advanced in the Arab World, to Gulf Arab states with which ties were restored two years ago. Kuwait, which was attacked by Iran several times during the 1980-88 Gulf war, installed the Egyptian-made Amoum Air Defence System earlier this year. The order was signed shortly before the Gulf ceasefire. Kuwait has also purchased Egyptian-made armoured personnel carriers and industry sources said more than 150 have been delivered so far. "We did not only buy the weapons because they are Egyptian but because they are good... The aim behind my visit is to discuss military cooperation and ways of developing it," the Kuwaiti minister said.

Gulf seeks ways to recycle garbage

JEDDAH (AP) — Arab experts met Saturday to find ways of recycling the Gulf's garbage. "If economically used, garbage can become a source of income to consolidate national economy," said Prince Majed, governor of Mecca province. He inaugurated the two-day seminar, the first of its kind held in the Saudi Arabia. It was attended by representatives of Arab economic institutions and research centres. The seminar was sponsored by the Jeddah Municipality and the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank. It will discuss disposal methods, ways of utilising garbage and funding recycling schemes. Jeddah's mayor Khaled Abdul-Ghani, said the amount of waste per head of population in Saudi Arabia was "more than anywhere in the world, including Europe." He also stressed that the Gulf region lagged far behind Europe and other industrialised regions in recycling garbage. He said more than 87 per cent of the garbage produced in the kingdom was disposed of as unused waste, with only a small portion turned into fertilizer.

Fundamentalists face trial in Morocco

RABAT (R) — Twenty-four Islamic fundamentalists are due to stand trial in Morocco Tuesday charged with illegal activities, a spokesman for their movement said Saturday. The spokesman for the Al Adl Wa Al-Ihsane Islamic Movement said they were accused of belonging to an unauthorised organisation, possessing documents threatening state security and holding unauthorised meetings. No government comment was immediately available. The Al Adl Wa Al-Ihsane spokesman said the trial would be held in Taroudant, an old city in the Souss Valley in south Morocco. He said the group, which included six professors or school teachers, were arrested on orders from the local governor, Taieb Sheraa, at private homes where they were holding discussions. The spokesman said dozens of other members of the movement had been arrested in the last few weeks in various parts of the country, including Tetuan in the north, Casablanca and towns and villages in the south. Most of them were released after interrogation, he said, but six had disappeared and their families had no knowledge of their whereabouts.

Iran invites U.N. human rights envoy

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Iran, the subject of critical U.N. human rights reports for the past five years, has for the first time invited a U.N. investigator to visit the country, an Iranian source has said. No date has yet been set for the visit. The invitation was contained in a letter from Iranian U.N. representative Kamal Kharazi to the U.N. Human Rights Commission's special representative on the situation in Iran, Reynaldo Galindo Pohl. In his latest report published earlier this month, Galindo Pohl, a law professor from El Salvador, said politically motivated mass executions took place in Iran last year. He also said that more than 900 executions officially announced by Iran during the first five months of 1989, mostly for drug trafficking, many were also alleged to have been politically motivated. A spokesman for the People's Mujahadeen of Iran, staunch opponents of the Tehran government, said the invitation to Galindo Pohl was a ploy to avoid stronger condemnation by the U.N.

Akbar Al Yom's photographer dies

CAIRO (AP) — Mohammad Abdul Rahman, chief photographer for the state-owned Akbar Al Yom publishing house, has died of a heart attack. He was 58. Abdul Rahman, a military officer-turned photographer, served in the 1950s in the army's public relations department and later in the office of then-commander-in-chief, Field Marshal Abdul Hakim Amer. Abdul Rahman lost his right arm in an explosives training accident. For several years he was editor of the armed forces magazine before leaving the army to become a professional photographer, using his left hand. Abdul Rahman is survived by his widow and one daughter.

Ethiopia to expand Asab Port

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopia has launched a \$71 million expansion programme to increase the cargo handling capacity of Asab, its main port on the Red Sea coast, a spokesman for the Ethiopian Maritime Authority said Saturday. The five-year project — funded by the African Development Bank, the European Investment Bank and the World Bank — envisages the construction of a container terminal and a multi-purpose jetty able to berth two large container ships. It will increase Asab's cargo handling capacity to 1,500 tonnes per day, from 1,000 at present, and allow up to 12 ships to dock at one time, as against eight now. The spokesman said the new container terminal would be able to handle 42,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEU's) per year. Ethiopia's other main port is Massawa, further north on the Red Sea coast, which serves Eritrea province. But Massawa's overland links with the rest of Ethiopia have been cut by the country's civil war.

Hopes flower for unification of North and South Yemen

By Tafia Chakmakjian

Reuter

NICOSIA — A wave of hopes for unification of North and South Yemen has flowered in the past few weeks for unification of North and South Yemen.

There is no guarantee that the latest of many unity efforts will progress beyond argument about how to take the first step.

But each government is studying fresh proposals from the other to abolish an unloved and poorly-marked frontier that cuts through a region of recently discovered oil fields.

Changes sweeping the Communist World have meanwhile reached South Yemen.

"Aden's perestroika," as it is locally called, has brought freer travel, greater religious toleration, pledges of a fresh approach to human rights and better relations with conservative neighbours like Saudi Arabia.

If nothing more, the new look in Aden has made more plausible the dream of unity between the South's three million people and the North's 10 million.

The regional press is buzzing with speculation that a major announcement may be made next

Thursday when the North's president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, will attend the South's Independence Day celebrations in Aden.

The two countries — the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in the South and the Arab Republic of Yemen in the North — share the coast and fertile highlands of the Arabian peninsula's south west corner.

The North gained independence after Turkey's Ottoman Empire collapsed during World War I.

The strategic port of Aden, near the entrance to the Red Sea, was a British colony until 1967, linked with a string of British-protected sheikhdoms to the east.

South Yemen's leaders emerged from their independence struggle with a strong leftist dogma. Until President Haider Abu Baker Al Attas and the ruling Socialist Party began their reforms this year local upheavals had changed the faces but not the politics.

North Yemen's monarchy was toppled in 1962 by army officers who drew inspiration and support mainly from the Arab nationalism of Egypt's Gamal Abdel Nasser. A seven year civil war ended with a broadly conservative com-

promise marred by bloody leadership struggles.

President Saleh, in power in Sanaa since 1978, has brought stability and takes aim where he can get it, from East, West and the oil states of the Arab Gulf.

Tribal and religious leaders retain strong unofficial powers but new roads, modern communications and the movement of migrant workers to and from the Gulf have been opening up a land which was long one of the most isolated in the world.

Western diplomats consider the North's elected parliament a lively and fairly representative institution — a sharp contrast with the party-controlled politics of the South.

North Yemen's closest allies are Egypt, Iraq and Jordan, the other members of the nine-month-old Arab Cooperation Council (ACC).

Both governments have long declared that Yemenis are really one people, but they have never been able to agree on how to make dream reality.

The most concrete measure achieved so far was agreement to develop border oil fields as a joint venture.

No one really knows where the frontier runs. Both sides hope that unification will in the end make it unnecessary to decide who owns which wells.

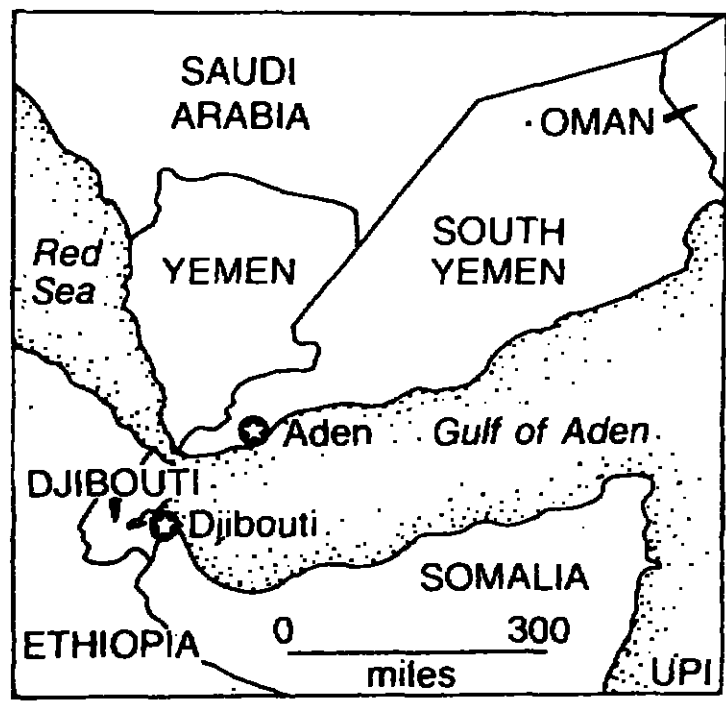
The London-based Arabic newspaper Al Hayat said Monday the two sides still differed on how to take the first step.

It said Aden rejected Sanaa's proposal and is suggesting a federation with a unified parliament and cabinet.

The South's Socialist Party said Thursday: "The Central Committee, after studying proposals presented by both sides, sees that the practical and possible step which should be taken at this time is finding a formula for a transitional period of unification..."

The committee suggested that the best way for building a united state "is through the democratisation of political and social life, which will guarantee the participation of the broadest masses of the people and their representatives."

According to the Sanaa weekly "26 September" Friday the North's proposal calls for the people of both states to become citizens of a Yemen Republic with a federal leadership controlling defence and foreign policy.



The federation would have one currency, one capital, one flag and a supreme court. The legislature would have two houses: One with seats distributed by population, the other with equal seats for North and South.

Federal authorities, the weekly said, would "help local government units exercise power in all parts of the federation."

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 News in French
17:10 Football
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
18:20 Cultural programme
19:00 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:05 Arabic series
20:30 Programme review
21:00 Local programme
21:05 Articles programme
22:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Loft story
18:15 U'cole de fans
19:00 News in French
19:10 Silence on Tourne
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties programme
20:20 Varieties programme
20:30 Charles in Charge
21:10 Doc. "Jawango, Jewel of the Kalahari"
22:00 News in English
22:30 Midnight Caller

CHURCHES

16:37 Maghreb
17:58 Taha

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetish, Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 62785.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 62490.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 63740.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757.

Terrace Church Tel. 622366.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 62541.

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 711331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.

Armenian International Church Tel. 685326.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811255.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654952.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

There will be a rise in temperatures with the appearance of clouds at medium and high altitudes. Winds will be southwesterly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Mohammad Awad 741391.

Dr. Adnan Zoghbi 898140.

Dr. Sa'ad Abu Hatab 649846.

Fire pharmacy 661912.

Fendous pharmacy 776536.

Al Azaza pharmacy 670055.

Naturock pharmacy 625672.

Al Salam pharmacy 636750.

Yacoub pharmacy 644945.

Shamoun pharmacy 676650.

IRBID: Dr. Shihda Zagh 623101.

Abdel Telephone Repairs 661101.

Al Shamsa pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA: Dr. Abdul Latif Shabab 985417.

Khalifa pharmacy 985417.

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111.

Civil Defence Emergency 690341.

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777.

Fire Brigade 891228.

Blood Bank 775121.

Highway Police 643402.

Traffic Police 896390.

Public Security Department 630321.

Hotel Complaints 626800.

Price Complaints 661176.

Water and Sewerage 897467.

Amman Municipality 787111.

Complaints 787111.

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121.

Overseas Calls 610239.

Central Amman Telephone 623101.

Repairs 661101.

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111.

Water Authority 680100.

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615.

Electric Power 636381.

RF Flight Information 08-33200.

Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-33200.

HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Hamdan Medical Centre 813813/2.

Khalifa Maternity, J. Amn 642816.

Al-Khalifa Maternity, J. Amn 642816.

Jabal Amman Mat

Meeting studies KG projects, training for women in Mafraq

MAFRAQ (Petra) — Heads and directors of community centres operated by the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF) in the Mafraq region began meeting here Saturday under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma to review expansion programmes for kindergartens, vocational training for women and exploitation of home gardens to produce food. Four working papers were reviewed by the participants, who also discussed problems encountered by the community centres in the region.

Addressing the opening session, Princess Basma, chairperson of the QAF's board of trustees, underlined the importance of such gatherings, "which open the door for an exchange of views on the best possible means of providing service to the local community and to study future projects."

The QAF is pursuing efforts to promote socio-economic development and seeking to respond to the needs of the local population, the Princess said. Due concern should be given to the children's development through expanding kindergartens and children's sections at the

community centres, she added. Also, local women should be enabled to take part in constructive and income-generating projects, and help supplement their income, she said.

According to the director of QAF's community centres department, the Mafraq meeting would be followed by others during which QAF directors and local heads of community centres can exchange views on ways of promoting rural development.

Mafraq Governor Fayed Abadi was among officials attending the meeting.



HRH Princess Basma

Arar, Mbeideen remain ahead in behind-the-scenes speakership race

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The race for the speakership of the Lower House of Parliament has been narrowed down to three candidates as Deputy-elect Hussein Mujalli withdrew from the race at the end of what he described as "deliberations and not actual candidacy." The three remaining candidates are Sulaiman Arar, Yusef Mbeideen and Laith Shbeilat.

Mujalli, former president of the Jordan Bar Association and deputy-elect from Jerash, told the Jordan Times that he "will support the candidates who we will be able to take a common position."

In another development, deputies-elect Qasim Obeidat and Fawzi Shaker Tusameh have joined the "democratic bloc" raising the number of its members to 16. The democratic bloc was formed at a meeting held at Mujalli's home Nov. 21.

According to Fakhri Kwar, an Amman deputy-elect and press spokesman of the bloc, a meeting held Friday did not produce a decision on whom the bloc will support as a candidate for the speakership, but a decision was reached "not to nominate anyone from within the bloc."

Kwar told the Jordan Times that negotiations with

the three candidates were continuing but that a final decision was not expected "until Sunday evening or maybe Monday morning."

He pointed out that the bloc had not placed much emphasis on the issue of speakership as a decisive point "although it is very important because there are many issues of importance for us to discuss in Parliament and we do not want to appear to be taking sides against or with any one grouping in the House," Kwar said.

"We hope to upgrade the standard of the House and the level of discussion and open channels for dialogue with everyone," he said.

On the other hand, Shbeilat conceded that his chances at winning the race for speakership "are not good," but vowed to continue in the race until the last day.

"I want to clear my conscience so that no-one would come back and ask me why I did not run for this office," Shbeilat told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview.

Asked if the speakership would impose limitations on his participation in discussions on the House floor, Shbeilat said: "The speaker of the Lower House can be one of the leaders in the country if he practices his duties properly."

He maintained that if the speaker "has a strong personality, there would not be

much open debate during the sessions of the House because many issues would be solved during meetings of the House committees."

According to Shbeilat, the present aspirants for the speakership office, "with all due respect and honour to all, do not represent the change that the people have called for." He added that he hopes the new Parliament will represent the new stage in Jordan and that "all the other Parliament members will stand for what they believe."

"I am an honourable MP (Member of Parliament) among other honourable MPs," he said. "I am one among equals and there should not be any need for me to be heard more than others."

But he added that if his colleagues in the House "are not behaving properly, you will hear me."

Observers believe that the race for the speakership will not be resolved in the first round of balloting although many predict that the real race will be between Arar and Mbeideen.

Shbeilat is expected to secure a minimum of 17 votes if the democratic bloc does not reach a unanimous decision to support one of the other two candidates, who then could only get between 29 to 33 votes each, thus falling short of the absolute majority of 41 votes

required for winning the speakership in the first round of votes.

The trump card is in the hands of some members of the bloc, who will cast their vote as one bloc after they reach a decision. Arar may emerge the winner in the first round if the bloc casts its votes in his favour and balks at supporting Shbeilat in view of his slim chances although Shbeilat is seen by many as closer to the members of the bloc and their ideologies.

Arar draws his support from the "independents" among the Parliament members, while Mbeideen has been declared the candidate of the Muslim Brotherhood movement although he himself is not a member.

Arar is seen by some observers as the right person for the job in view of his background as speaker of the National Consultative Council from 1978 to 1984 and his senior positions in past governments. However, these same qualities have been cited by others as drawbacks since they "do not represent change."

A few independents are expected to cast their votes in favour of Mbeideen to avoid voting for Arar on personal or ideological differences, but that small number will be divided if some of them decide to vote in favour of Shbeilat or opt to cast blank ballots.

120 educational supervisors train

AMMAN (J.T.) — A United Nations-sponsored workshop started in Amman Saturday to train 120 educational supervisors working for the Ministry of Education on matters related to health education in schools and to help spread such education at the primary level.

Jordan is the first Arab country to introduce health education programmes to its compulsory school curricula, a project of immense value to the children and one which will be discussed in detail at the international conference for Education for All, which is due to be held in Thailand in March of 1990, said Sarojini Abraham, deputy director of the Middle East and North Africa regional office of the United Nations Children's Fund (UN-

ICEF), at the opening session. UNICEF and the World Health Organisation (WHO) are co-sponsoring the six-day workshop in cooperation with the Ministry of Education in Jordan.

"Training personnel to supervise the implementation of this programme is of immense value since it is designed to help promote the development of local communities as a whole," Abraham told the meeting.

Education Minister Adnan Badran, who spoke at the beginning of the meeting, said Jordan takes pride in being the first Arab country to implement such project for elementary grades, a project carried out in cooperation with UNICEF and WHO. He said the ministries of health and social development are also tak-

ing part in the implementation of the project, which is aimed at providing health for all people by the year 2000 through improving the standard of living among various communities and through health awareness, education and basic skills.

The Ministry of Education has set up a national committee and a technical team to help implement the programme and has worked out a procedural plan for elementary schools, according to Badran. He said the committee had prepared a guidebook for teachers in the first elementary classes, which will be explained during the workshop sessions.

Ministry of Education Director of Curricula and Educational Techniques Dr. Ahmad Hiyasat

told the first session that the ministry and UNICEF held meetings in Amman in July of this year and endorsed the teacher guidebook on health education and also agreed on organising the Amman workshop.

He said participants would be oriented to their role in spreading health education in schools and on the various common health problems in Jordan.

Apart from the participants, representatives from WHO and UNICEF as well as the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF) and the Armed Forces Cultural Department, and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) are attending the workshop sessions.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

JABER BACK FROM INDIA: Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Yusef Hamdan Al Jaber returned to Amman Saturday after leading Jordan's delegation to an Afro-Asian meeting in India. The five-day meeting, organised by the Afro-Asian Rural Development Committee, reviewed matters related to development in Asian and African countries (Petra).

INTERIOR MINISTERS TO MEET DEC. 1: The Arab interior ministers' council will meet in Cairo Dec. 1. The council is expected to discuss means to bolster Arab security cooperation and integration, facilitate travel and exchange of information on crime. The council will also discuss a report on an Arab security plan. (Petra)

NAMMAR VISITS BAGHDAD: Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) Secretary General Hilmi Nammari is currently in Baghdad for a meeting with First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan on ACC matters. He will also discuss arrangements for an ACC ministerial council meeting to open in the Iraqi capital Jan. 16.

BOOK EXHIBITION AT YARMOUK: An annual book exhibition was opened at Yarmouk University Saturday by President Mohammed Hamdan. On display for two weeks are collections of reference books and books for children.

ANTI-PEST CAMPAIGN: A meeting held Saturday at northern Jordan Valley region to discuss means of eliminating pests called on Amman Municipality to extend a helping hand to combat rats and common insects. The meeting, chaired by Governor Khalaf Mahasneh, called on the Water and Irrigation Ministry to set up waste-water treatment plants in the district to help dispose off waste.

ARAB TRANSPORT TALKS: Jordan and nine other Arab states are taking part in the 20th meeting of the Arab Land Transport Union (ALTU) which opened in Cairo Saturday. The two-day meeting will discuss customs matters, facilities at border posts and expanding railway transport in Arab countries.

LIBYAN ENGINEERS IN AMMAN: A team representing agricultural engineers of Libya visited the University of Jordan Saturday and met with Dr. Suleiman Arabiyat, dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, who outlined agricultural development in Jordan. The team and Arabiyat discussed scopes of cooperation between the faculty and Omar Al Mukhtar University in Libya and the exchange of books, publications and scientific research work.

STUDENT QUALIFICATIONS: Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad said in a statement Saturday that only graduates of community colleges in the 1989-1990 academic year can benefit from the prospect of following up their studies at Jordanian universities. He said graduates before the current academic year do not qualify for such courses since their specialisations were not recognised by the ministry.

POETRY FESTIVAL: Jordan is taking part in a poetry festival, which opened Saturday in Baghdad. More than 1,000 poets, intellectuals and writers from Arab and foreign countries are taking part in the event, the tenth of its kind to be organised in the Iraqi capital.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition entitled "The Blue Rider" at the Goethe Institute.
- ★ An exhibition of paintings and etchings inspired by Arabic Islamic art at Abdel Hameed Shoman Foundation.
- ★ An art exhibition by artists from Jordan and other Arab countries at Al Wasiti Gallery, Plaza Hotel.
- ★ An art exhibition by Anwar Haddadin at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Book exhibition at the University of Yarmouk.

BAZAAR

- ★ Charity bazaar on productive projects at the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel.

FILMS

- ★ Film: "A Tale of Two Cities" at the British Council at 6:00 p.m.
- ★ Italian film: "Cristo si è fermato a Eboli" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

POETRY RECITATION

- ★ Poetry recitation by Dr. Sa'ad Sabbah at the Palace of Culture at 6:00 p.m.



Princess Majda presents golden cup award to the staff of the Plaza Hotel for sponsoring the charity march

Princess Majda honours hotel for support of disabled people

AMMAN (J.T.) — The staff of the Amman Plaza Hotel were honoured by Princess Majda, president of the Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped and president of the Society for the Care of Neurological Patients, for their distinguished role in promoting the cause of disabled people in Jordan.

The Princess presented a golden cup to the staff and said it was a token gift in recognition of the Plaza Hotel's sponsorship of a charity march which took place in Amman Nov. 17 to raise funds for the benefit of the neurological patients and handicapped in Jordan.

The princess and Chief Cham-

berlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid accompanied Her Majesty Queen Noor in participating in the 24-kilometre march along with several members of the diplomatic corps in Jordan and a large number of citizens.

This year's march was the third of its kind to be organised by the Amman Plaza Hotel.

Crown Prince Award experts discuss strategy

AMMAN (J.T.) — A group of experts and officials involved in the implementation of the Crown Prince Award programme for the young, Saturday began a five-day symposium to work out plans for future activities and means of developing the four-year-old project.

Minister of Education Adnan Badran, who stood in for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the opening session, said the Crown Prince Award is designed to promote the potentials and skills of young Jordanians and to help them develop their talents and their capabilities through voluntary and cultural services.

The Crown Prince Award programme when it was initiated in 1984 only involved 45 young participants. Their number has now reached 1,000 male and female youths taking part in various activities, according to Badran.

Samar Kildani, the award's

director, outlined in a speech the aim and nature of these activities for which she said, the contestants receive gold, silver and bronze medals.

The current symposium, Kildani said, is aimed at orienting supervisors and coordinators of programmes in new techniques to improve the skills and promote the potentials of participants and to chart new programmes.

Five workshops will be established over the coming five days in which the participants will discuss skills, services, sports, and other youth activities with the help of two British experts in these fields, Kildani said.

The Crown Prince Award was established along the lines of the Duke of Edinburgh Award in the United Kingdom in 1956, she added.

She said that the young participants in the programme carry out social and voluntary services and involve themselves in recreational and sports activities and go on trips around Jordan.

Three-day UDD charity crafts bazaar opens

AMMAN (Petra) — In the course of the Kingdom's celebrations of His Majesty King Hussein's 54th birthday, British Ambassador to Jordan Anthony Reeve Saturday opened a charity bazaar of handicrafts produced under a programme supervised by the Urban Development Department (UDD) with contributions from the British embassy here.

UDD Director-General Hisham Al Zagher said in a speech that the three-day bazaar was

designed to encourage Jordanian women to produce more with programmes organised by UDD community centres.

"Since 1980, the UDD has been involved in providing decent housing to limited and low-income groups and setting up community centres where women can meet and cooperate in handicraft work that would increase their families' income," Zagher said.

The UDD community centres are integrated units providing various types of activities for hous-

3 killed, 122 hurt in road accidents last week

AMMAN (J.T.) — Three people were killed and 122 others were injured in 243 road accidents which occurred in Jordan in the past week, according to a statistical bulletin issued by the Public Security Department (PSD).

The bulletin said the accidents involved 56 vehicles knocking down pedestrians and 140 collisions. The total number is less by 27 than accidents registered in the previous week, the injured were less by 19 and the death toll was less by one, it said.

The main reason for the accidents in the past week, the statement said, was excessive speed. The PSD Saturday embarked on a month-long vehicle inspection campaign to ensure that all vehicles are roadworthy and that they are well-equipped for the winter.

ing estates set up by the department, he added.

The first UDD community centre had nine women participants, now reaching 700. Each woman earns an average of JD 25 monthly from her contribution in handicraft work, mostly embroidery, according to Zagher.

Zagher said UDD community centres taking part in the bazaar were located at Joffa, Rihani, Wihdat, Nuzha, Prince Hassan district, Marka, Rusafa and Qweimeh.

Malaria conference to study measures to fight the disease

AMMAN (Petra) — A World Health Organisation (WHO)-sponsored regional conference on ways of fighting malaria opened in Amman Saturday with delegates from 14 Arab and foreign countries.

Working papers focusing on experiments in South Yemen, Pakistan and Jordan to stem the disease will be reviewed by the participants, who will also discuss measures to deal with malaria as part of an effort to achieve the WHO's target of health for all by the year 2000.

"Despite strenuous efforts to eliminate malaria in Jordan, the country has a long way to go and the need is now greater than ever before to find modern medicine for patients and more effective vaccines, which are not costly and

easy to use," Minister of Health and Social Development Zuhair Malhas said in a speech at the opening session.

"Over the past 20 years, Jordan has been closely cooperating with the World Health Organisation in an intensive programme to stem malaria that has been endemic in Jordan, and it was thought that we overcame all difficulties and reached our goal," the minister said. But, he said, "the way is full of obstacles since malaria continues to appear despite the use of various types of medication and germicides."

The Ministry of Health is following an integrated programme in cooperation with WHO to curtail malaria, and has set up health units for this task at airports and

all points of entry to the Kingdom, according to Malhas.

"It is hoped that the 1990s or the beginning of the 21st century will witness the development of effective vaccines that can provide immunisation for people against this contagious disease," Malhas said.

WHO representative in the Near East region Dr. Abdul Majid Abdul Hadi paid tribute to governments using preventive measures within their primary health care programmes to eliminate contagious diseases in general and malaria in particular. Abdul Hadi expressed hope that the conference would contribute to the establishment of standard measures to be followed. Near East region to combat malaria on a large scale.

Customs authorities detain two smugglers

AMMAN (J.T.) — The customs authorities Saturday announced the detention of two smugglers of foreign-made cigarettes following a "hot pursuit" in Amman during which firearms were used by customs officers that resulted in the death of a customs officer, according to a statement by the prosecutor's office.

The officer was killed by a stray bullet fired by one of his colleagues during the chase, which took place last Thursday, the statement said.

The Department of Customs said the chase took place near the Seventh Circle of Jabal Amman where the smugglers surrendered and an unspecified quantity of smuggled cigarettes were seized

from their car, which was also confiscated.

The department gave the name of the dead customs officer as Subhi Tawfiq Al Abbadi.

Also Saturday the military court announced several sentences on a group of drug smugglers and traffickers, including two Syrians and two Saudi nationals.

The court sentenced the smugglers to prison terms ranging from three to 20 years with hard labour and payment of up to JD 15,000 in fines.

Two of the convicted were sentenced in absentia. The court fined five Jordanian merchants JD 30 to JD 300 for violations of supply regulations.

Ministry to train staff for handicapped

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Social Development will be solely responsible for developing and preparing trained and technical expertise of employees enrolled in projects related to rehabilitation of the handicapped in the Arab countries, according to an initial agreement reached Saturday by Ministry of Social Development Secretary-General Dr. Mohammad Al Sogair and an International Labour Organisation (ILO) expert.

The project is designed to develop the training expertise of those in charge of projects related to the handicapped, to develop

training programmes, and to expand rehabilitation programmes.

Sogair also held a meeting with Assistant Director of the United Nations (U.N.) Social Development branch in Vienna, Mohamed Sharif and the head of the handicapped section at the same branch.

The discussions dealt with various spheres of activities including women projects, rehabilitation of the handicapped, the opportunity of technical cooperation and exchange of information in these fields, as well as spheres of cooperation and possible aid to Jordan.

Clashes erupt in Gaza

(Continued from page 1)

A group of right-wing Jewish extremists claimed responsibility. In other incidents Friday, troops shot and wounded 17 Palestinians, including a nine-year-old and two 12-year-old boys, during clashes with masked activists and stone-throwing protesters in three refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, reports said.

camp, nearby Nur Shams camp and parts of the Tulkeram town.

On Friday, a bottle bomb made with gunpowder and a candle was found outside the home of a surgeon who transplanted the heart of an Israeli soldier into a Palestinian.

Hrawi, Aour

(Continued from page 1)

cooperate with every... without any exceptions... added that the march for peace "is capable of wiping out whoever stands in its way."

Parliamentary sources said it was not known if all 14 would accept their posts in what Hrawi had promised would be a "national reconciliation" government.

Hrawi said his administration was dedicated to implement the Arab peace pact for Lebanon. The pact preserves the presidency for a Christian but reduces his powers in favour of a Muslim-led cabinet.

About 100,000 people turned out for the funeral of Muawad. Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir, spiritual head of the Maronite community, presided over the funeral service and Pape Nuncio Paolo Pontre read a message from Pope John Paul II.

A longtime friend of Muawad, Hashem Hussein, 74, a Sunni Muslim parliamentarian, fainted during the services. Attendees tapped his chest as they hastily carried him out, but he later recovered.

In a national day of mourning, schools, banks, businesses, movie houses and cafes were closed in every major city and radio stations in Beirut played somber music.

No one has claimed responsibility for killing Muawad and as in countless previous assassinations in Lebanon, there seems to be no likelihood that the culprits will be found or brought to justice.

Bulldozers have erased whatever clues or fingerprints were left on or around the scene of the slaying. There has been no word of any investigation and no arrests have been made.

One Lebanese bomb expert told Reuters of Muawad's death: "A very cold blooded person pressed the button of the remote control from a place not more than 300 metres from the explosion site, at the very second Muawad's own car passed..." he said.

"Despite all the security measures that can be taken, if they want to get you, they will... nothing can protect you in Lebanon except God."

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

Privatisation revisited

PRIVATISATION, as an economic policy, was introduced to Jordan since the second half of 1985. Too much was said but very little or nothing was done to carry out this policy. Privatisation ran into trouble and faced formidable resistance. The government failed to sell the idea to the people. In fact it did not try wholeheartedly to do so, and the public opinion did not buy the idea, which was badly presented as a made-in-USA-policy to hand out public assets to greedy sharks, and to make the rich richer and the poor poorer.

In order to launch a privatisation programme, the government has to minimise its intervention and promote market economy, withdraw from activities that are not compatible with the public sector, and denationalise public units starting with touristic, manufacturing and service enterprises.

In effect Jordan had two major administrations during the last 12 years. While the first was against the private sector, the second was for the public sector. Only lip service was paid to the private sector, while the actual conduct of business ran in the opposite direction.

For some reason, the government did not make a logical start

with privatisation. It started the building from the top down, by addressing the ceiling before the walls, let even the foundations. The first targets on the list were the largest corporations, such as the Telecommunication Corporation (TOC), the Royal Jordanian Airlines (RJ) and the Public Transport Corporation (PTC).

The targets were too big to be practical. It is an irony that the government was heavily involved in running hotels, newspapers, bakeries, and small industries, while talking loudly about privatisation of TOC, which would have made Jordan the fifth country in the world to privatise telecommunication.

Privatisation starts as a conviction resulting from observing the inefficient management and decision-making of the public sector. But once the concerned politician is himself in office, the public sector decision becomes his own decision. Why should he voluntarily give up his economic and financial powers? Such powers enable him to give and take at his discretion, something that is obviously translated into political power that enable him to reward friends and supporters, and punish adversaries.

Privatisation is still a valid policy. The public sector does not deny lack of efficiency. In addition it now lacks resources and cannot shoulder the responsibility of the future growth and

development efforts. The private sector on the other hand has idle resources in the form of capital savings, unemployed manpower, and underutilised capacity. Therefore, it is the private sector that can fill the gap, invest, and create more goods and services for local and export markets and more jobs for the unemployed.

Whether or not the private sector will actually become aggressive and act, depends on the political stability and investment climate.

The cause of privatisation in Jordan was not fortunate. It got a negative image because it was advocated by unpopular governments or by foreign powers as a foreign policy instrument. However, to reject privatisation for the above reasons only would be like refusing human rights for the same reasons.

Central planning is definitely superior to market economy, but only on paper, when the assumption is that planning will be practiced by knowledgeable officers, fully motivated by the public interest. However, in the real world central planning and bureaucratic control are assured prescriptions for corruption and mismanagement. The market is admittedly imperfect, but bureaucracy can lead to disaster.

Dirty politics

THE TRUE colour of Israel's two main political parties, Labour and Likud, is shining more clearly than ever over the issue of the Basic Law — human rights — which is currently under consideration by the Knesset. Both parties have decided to play dirty politics with the subject of human rights in Israel and offered to kill its passage in the Knesset. If that would ensure their ascendancy to power. What adds insult to injury is the fact that human rights legislation of all legislations is the one particular basic law that separates the "developed" from the "developing" countries. And as Israel constantly parades itself as the only living democracy in West Asia, the decision of its two principal parties to play politics with the subject of human rights should cast a very somber shadow on its preposterous claim that it has a monopoly on pluralism and democracy in the Middle East.

The Basic Law in question simply purports to incorporate the main feature of international human rights instruments, especially those that aim to eliminate any form of discrimination among nationals on the basis of religion, race, ethnic origin or political views into Israel's body of laws. It is amazing that Israel has not yet adopted such basic human rights, given its boast of being part of the so-called "free world" and an organic part of the Western heritage. And even at this late hour, the Israelis cannot reconcile themselves to the need to eliminate discrimination among their ranks. Thus, all the wheeling and dealing that go on among Israel's main religious parties, which are the arch enemies of the Basic Law in question, and the leadership of the Likud and Labour parties, portray a clearer picture of the inner character of Israel as an entity established on an edifice devoid of the essential ingredients of human rights that are universally recognised.

No wonder then that it is so difficult to argue common sense propositions with Tel Aviv, including those related to the suffocated peace process. How can a country like Israel, which rejects basic human rights and their application to its own people, be expected to honour and recognise human rights when they are invoked on behalf of the Palestinian people and the rest of the Arabs, including those who are Israeli citizens? Had Israel been a truly democratic country fully committed to the universal cause of human rights, it would not have been possible for it to deny basic human rights to others. Perhaps the first order of business, then, should be to inculcate the respect of human rights in the minds and hearts of the Israelis before any serious attempt is made to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflicts on the basis of human rights and internationally recognised legitimacy.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily Saturday discussed the opening of Parliament which will take place on Monday when His Majesty King Hussein will deliver a speech from the throne. The paper said that with the speech, Jordan will resume the democratic march which the King had promised his Jordanian family before the elections of Nov. 8. There is no doubt that all Jordanians realise the immense task the Parliament has to face and the numerous challenges standing in the way of the nation; and therefore, everyone expects the legislative and the executive authorities to closely cooperate in the process of serving the people in all matters, the paper noted. One would also expect the deputies to be realistic that they cannot honour their pledges made to the electorate overnight, the paper added. The speech from the throne will be directed to all sectors of the people, the government and the new deputies in parliament, and would no doubt serve as a guideline for all those wishing to cooperate in serving the country and its people, said the paper. As we look forward to the opening of parliament and the speech from the throne, the paper said, one cannot help feeling proud of the democratic life in the Kingdom and the unity of the Jordanian people.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily attack the United States government for its support and assistance to the Salvadorean government which, he says, is maintaining a state of repression against the people of El Salvador. Tareq Masarweh says that Washington pays nearly one million dollars daily to the government in Sal Salvador to finance its battles against the rebels which has been going on for the past 10 years. Last Monday Washington approved of a \$715 million fund for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) which in turn finances such wars in America, in Afghanistan and elsewhere around the world, says the writer. Washington, he notes, carries out these operations in the name of democracy, but in fact it causes untold sufferings for the people of the Third World; and it is indeed supporting unlawful and undemocratic entities. The writer cites as examples of such wars, the conflicts going on in the Gulf, southern Sudan, and Libya, let alone Israel which is being armed to the teeth to carry on its repression against the Palestinian people. Masarweh particularly cites the murder by Salvadorean government troops of six Catholic priests a week ago, and says that the United States government should be held as accomplice to that murder.

Al Dastour daily newspaper Saturday discussed the situation in Lebanon following the tragic death of President Rene Muawad and the election of his successor. The paper said that there can be no future for Lebanon without its territorial unity and sovereignty; and the recognition of the right of its people to live in unity and harmony. The paper said that the election of a new president in Lebanon reflected the Lebanese people's determination not to succumb to terrorism and not to give attention to anything except Lebanon's highest national interests. It seems after all, said the paper, that the Lebanese people are re-organising their ranks behind the legitimate and lawful government and its president, ready to redress their wounds and have a fresh start towards reconciliation and peace.

1989 — tumultuous for many

By Laura King
The Associated Press

THE POLITICAL firestorms of 1989 were ignited in the streets of Berlin and Beijing, on battlefields and in ballot boxes, by free choice and brute force, in open elections and behind closed doors.

The shock of the new reverberated from the superpowers to the tiniest of nations. Some seekers of change went out. Others quietly put their hopes on hold. And some died in the trying.

Names known to only a few at the year began were suddenly the stuff of headlines. Tadeusz Mazowiecki in Poland. Wu'er Kaixi in China. Votes gave voice to others: Peruvian peasants, Japanese housewives, Namibian tribespeople.

The players in the world's political dramas were reformers and refugees, students and statesmen, the old guard and the new wave. They broke down walls and built new nations. They seized the moment; they bided their time.

In Lebanon, the civil war raged on amid further political violence. President Rene Muawad was assassinated Nov. 22 in West Beirut, 17 days after he was elected with a mandate to try to end Lebanon's civil war.

"He fell a martyr of peace, a martyr of Lebanon's unity and national reconciliation," Prime Minister-designate Salim Hoss said.

In Eastern Europe, the year started quietly enough, but by its end, observers grouped for superlatives to describe a dizzying series of events. For a time, it seemed every day brought some unimagined breakthrough.

A one-time political prisoner, Solidarity's Tadeusz Mazowiecki, became Poland's prime minister, in the region's first non-Communist-led government in four decades.

East Germany, seeing its lifeblood drained as thousands fled West, replaced hard-line leader Erich Honecker. Then it threw open its borders, punching holes in the hated Berlin Wall.

In Czechoslovakia, huge crowds took to the streets to press for more change. Hungarian Communists disbanded their par-

ty and prepared for free elections. Even Bulgaria, a staunch holdout against change, shouldered aside its longtime party chief Todor Zhivkov.

Sinatra doctrine

The Kremlin took a hands-off approach, going so far as to joke about its "Sinatra doctrine," for Frank Sinatra's signature song "My Way."

The doctrine, however, did not apply to autonomy-seeking Soviet republics. Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev surged to contain independence movements in the Baltics and unrest in Moldavia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan.

In China, the bloody crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrations was witnessed by millions of television viewers around the world. But the power struggles of its top leaders went on largely in secret, yielding only cryptic clues. At year's end, Chinese senior leader Deng Xiaoping had given up his last party posts but remained the principal power.

In Japan, scandals and an unpopular sales tax shook the ruling party. Prime ministers Noboru Takeshita and Soudsuke Uno were sent packing, but through it all, the country's economic engines hummed smoothly as ever.

George Bush was inaugurated as the 41st U.S. president. And American voters also elected a black governor for the first time, in the state of Virginia, and New York City elected its first black mayor.

South Africa, with a new president, modified radical segregation policies that made it an outcast among nations. Although F.W. de Klerk spoke of bringing the black majority into the political process, he stopped well short of promising them a full voice in government.

Mobile voting stations

In the territory of Namibia, which South Africa had held for 74 years, voters elected an assembly to write a constitution and make the country independent. Helicopters served as mobile voting stations in some remote villages.

By Barry Moody
Reuters

ROME — Shock waves from the political earthquake in Eastern Europe are vibrating through Italy's Communist Party, the biggest in the West, and threaten to shake it apart.

The party central committee held a divisive, stormy meeting in Rome this week to discuss a proposal by leader Achille Occhetto to drop the Communist name and the hammer and sickle emblem and forge a new, Social Democratic group that would join the Socialist International.

Occhetto, 53, was reacting both to the upheaval in Eastern Europe and to a steady decline in the fortunes of his party, which has been excluded from power for 40 years despite being Italy's second largest political grouping.

But his proposal was greeted by howls of protest within the 1.7 million-strong party and could provoke a schism between traditionalists proud of the Communists' widely respected history in Italy and a new guard of "young colonels" faithful to Occhetto.

About 50 party protesters yelling betrayal, including some old women on the verge of tears, picketed the start of the central committee meeting and screamed abuse at Occhetto supporters.

The switchboard at Communist Party (PCI) headquarters was jammed with calls from bewildered grass roots members.

Demanding an extraordinary party congress as soon as possible, leftwing party veteran Pietro Ingrao told a tense, packed session of the 400-member central committee and leadership.

"A bitter question is raised

Upheaval in East shakes West's biggest Communist party

about whether the sense of this operation is essentially... a declaration of death of Communism... I dissent from this valuation and I will fight so that it does not happen."

Party members say an extraordinary congress to decide on Occhetto's proposals is likely early next year.

Ingrao said Occhetto had made no contacts with other groups who might join a broad leftwing grouping and added that a new course for the party had not been properly thought out.

The emergent Greens had already rejected the idea and other groups appeared unwilling to join the Communists, Ingrao said.

Another leftwing veteran, Giancarlo Pajetta, said the issue was a vote of confidence on Occhetto "and I cast my no vote."

A newspaper opinion poll showed 50 per cent of PCI members questioned rejected a change of name and 33 per cent thought the changes would cause a permanent rift.

Cuore (Heart), a satirical weekly published by the party Organ L'Unita, showed one man throwing away a hammer and

sickle while another commented: "That's risky. Can't you see it's got the same shape as a boomerang?"

The Italian Communist Party, which built its strength during the guerrilla struggle against fascism, has been Italy's second biggest group for the whole postwar period and in the 1970s threatened to overtake the dominant Christian Democrats.

At its peak in 1976 general elections the PCI grabbed nearly 35 per cent of the vote.

It has been able to rely on a highly disciplined rank and file, especially in "red" Emilia in a central Italy, the party's stronghold.

The PCI also prides itself on its independence from Moscow and founded the "Eurocommunist" movement in the 1970s, attacking Soviet policy in Afghanistan and Poland. It condemned the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia.

But voters have gradually become disillusioned by the party's automatic exclusion from government despite its size and by its failure to keep pace with the newly affluent face of Italy.

At the same time the Commun-

and more assassinations.

Voters in Peru, though, defied death threats by Maoist-inspired guerrillas to vote in municipal elections, a prelude to the next year's presidential balloting.

In Paraguay, Gen. Andres Rodriguez overthrew military leader Alfredo Stroessner and was elected president three months later in what he called a transition to democracy.

Chile scheduled a presidential election in mid-December, the first in nearly two decades. Brazil was holding its first free presidential elections since 1960, and in Argentina, one democratically elected government handed off to another for the first time since 1928.

In Western Europe, governments and citizens alike pondered the changing political landscape in the East and looked ahead to 1992, when European Community members planned to drop trade barriers among themselves.

Spain's Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez remained in power although his party lost some ground in national elections. But Norway's first female prime minister, Gro Harlem Brundtland, lost her post. Italy installed its 49th postwar government, and Greece struggled to form a new government after the defeat of scandal-plagued Premier Andreas Papandreu.

In India, the world's largest democracy, polls pointed to trouble for Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party on the eve of three-day general elections in late November.

Sri Lanka's Ranasinghe Premadasa began his presidency with a call for an end to the civil war between ethnic Sinhalese and Tamil extremists, but none was in sight.

Vietnam withdrew what it said were the last of its troops from Cambodia, where three resistance groups took renewed aim at the Vietnamese-installed government after a peace conference in Paris failed to bring a political solution.

Burma, which crushed pro-democracy protests in 1988, kept a tight lid on dissent. Elections were promised for 1990, but top opposition leaders were under house arrest.

ists have been undermined by the growing strength of Socialist leader Bettino Craxi whose political skill has enabled his centrist party to steal their votes and lay claim to leadership of a united Italian left.

The Communists slumped to 22 per cent in local elections in 1988, their worst result for 35 years. The gap between them and the Socialists narrowed to four points compared with 25 per cent a decade ago.

Occhetto, appointed immediately after that disaster to modernise the party's appeal, managed to stop the rot in European elections last spring, pushing the Communist share up to 28 per cent.

But he fears that the party risks being left behind by the speed of change in the East which could make it look like a Western anachronism as even Warsaw Pact parties change their image.

"The fall of the Berlin Wall changes the problems facing us... every fall (of an Eastern Bloc regime), every new development shows us to be right," Occhetto said.

In an opening address to the week-long central committee he said the "dispersed and submerged forces of the left" must unite, but he rejected cooperation with Craxi.

The party could not stand still. "We must leave behind an existence which too often has made us appear immobile, more rigid than reality," he said.

But Occhetto's gamble could close him the leadership — he is reported to have threatened to resign if his plan is not accepted — and cause a disastrous split in the party.

All passions meet at hill

By Jack Redden
Reuters

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — All the passions that have kept Jews and Muslims battling for decades meet in one 14 hectare (34-acre) rectangle of land in the heart of Jerusalem.

Nowhere are the rival claims to this ancient land clearer. The tiny mount is sacred to both Muslims and Jews, a conflict, that runs much deeper than mere political dispute.

"You must understand this very holy place was taken from us by occupation," said Gershon Salomon. "We are going to take back a place promised to us by God."

Salomon's Jewish organisation is the Temple Mount Faithful, dismissed as fringe extremists by Israeli officials. But they realise its potential for stirring religious passions among Palestinians already angered by steady Israeli encroachment on their land.

"If anything happens to Al Aqsa Mosque there will be no peace at all," said Ahmad Al Alami, the son of the mufti of Jerusalem, Sheikh Sadeedin Al Alami. "You are attacking the whole Muslim world."

A recent attempt by Salomon's group to lay a symbolic cornerstone for a Jewish temple on the mount prompted the mufti, the highest Muslim official in the city, to call on the faithful to protect the sacred area.

Authorities blocked Salomon's group from the site, which holds the Dome of the Rock and the Al Aqsa Mosque, but the attempt prompted the Jerusalem Post newspaper to warn in an article headlined "stop this madness" that someone might destroy the Muslim shrines.

The claims of both Muslims and Jews are rooted in ancient religious traditions.

Muslims, besides sharing biblical associations with the arid hilltop in the old city of Jerusalem, believe Prophet Mohammed rose to heaven from the rock. Their monuments date to shortly after the seventh century Muslim conquest.

The Jewish claim is even earlier. Here stood their first temple destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 B.C., then the monumental second temple that was levelled by the Roman army during the Jewish rebellion in 70 A.D.

Only the second temple platform survived, including the western "wailing wall" that has been a focus of Jewish reverence through the centuries.

After Israel's occupation of East Jerusalem and the West Bank in 1967, Israel confirmed continued Muslim control of the mount, considered the third most sacred site in Islam.

Rabbis indirectly maintained the status quo by placing warnings over the narrow gateways into the compound that Jews must not enter in case they step on the ancient site of the holy of holies in the second temple.

"The problem is a political problem, not a religious one," Salomon said in an interview. "I believe that very soon, this government or another, will decide they must change the situation on the temple mount."

Salomon's aims, as Palestinians suspect, have as much to do with nationalism as religion. "The person who holds that will hold the country," he said.

The soft-spoken academic sees the golden Dome of the Rock rising over Jerusalem as a symbol of the Palestinian presence.

His hostility to Arabs remaining in the area of "biblical Israel" is rooted in personal experience. An ancestor was stabbed to death by an Arab in 1848 — he refers to

him as the first Zionist casualty. In a battle in 1938 on the Syrian border Salomon himself suffered near fatal wounds that forced years of recuperation and left him with a permanent limp.

Salomon says sharing the limited space of the mount with the Islamic shrines would be impossible — they want precisely the same spot — but he does not specify how it should be cleared for the "third temple."

Other Israelis have been less restrained. In 1985 authorities arrested a group plotting to blow up the shrines — an explosion that would have been echoed by Muslim rage.

Armed Israeli police and unarmed Palestinians guard the compound but they know there is always a danger that someone could evade the security. Salomon himself is convinced that his call for the "liberation" of the mount reflects the desire of most Israelis.

"Everyone in this country feels what we feel," Salomon said in the study of his house, built on land captured in the 1967 Middle East war. "The only question is over the time."

The combined opposition of Muslims preserving a sacred site, Palestinians preserving a symbol of their presence and Israelis preserving peace are dismissed with messianic certainty.

"I don't think they can stop us. No one can stop it," the silver-haired Salomon said. "It is the will of God, the will of history."

LETTERS

Biased reporting

To the Editor:

AT a time when the press in Jordan is clamouring for freedom of speech, freedom of reporting, equality with the foreign press etc., it is regrettable to still read biased and one-sided reporting in the local press, undermining the very aspirations and demands sought after. Before asking for freedoms, the press must demonstrate its impartial, responsible and unbiased reporting of events and, in addition, cease to insult and belittle the intelligence of its readers.

A case in question was an article which appeared in a weekly Arabic paper on Nov. 16, 1989, an instance of biased and one-sided reporting if ever there was one and if it can be called journalistic reporting at all.

The article, on the Cyprus problem was being passed off by the paper as a "new report on the Cyprus problem."

However, any reader of average intelligence, on reading this so-called "report", will realise that it is nothing but a "press release" issued by one of the parties involved in the problem, and, certainly, no report.

It is no shame for a newspaper to lean towards the view point of any one party to a conflict or issue. Many prominent foreign papers are openly biased towards a movement, political or otherwise, an ideology etc., and honestly admit it. At least, the reader is forewarned. But to pass off an article such as that appearing in the Arabic paper as a report, is the height of journalistic unprofessionalism and an affront to the intelligence of the readers. As the old saying goes: "You can fool all the people some of the time and some people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time."

Edward Ledger
P.O. Box 120
Amman.



No marine life is immune to the danger of the enormous nets spread by fishermen. Here a sea lion in the Pacific was rescued just in time.



Thousands of dolphins are killed each year by Italian fishermen in the Mediterranean.

Dolphins slaughtered in the Mediterranean

By Clare Pedrick

ROME — During the summer, visitors to large stretches of Italian coastline were greeted by a gruesome sight — the carcasses of scores of dolphins, often mutilated beyond recognition.

The mammals were casualties of a new fishing technique that has sparked loud protests from conservationists worldwide. Using giant nylon nets imported from Japan, Italian fishermen have forsaken traditional methods and begun to scoop up thousands of tons of swordfish. In the space of just two years, Italy has become the Mediterranean's largest producer of swordfish, with an annual catch of 13,000 tons.

The stakes are high. In 1988 the 700-vessel Italian fleet pulled in a catch of swordfish estimated to be worth 200 billion lire (U.S.\$143 million). In the process it caused the deaths of more than 4,000 dolphins, say marine-life experts.

"The dolphins die for nothing," said Michele Ansaldi of the Rome-based "Lega Per l'Ambiente" environmental lobby group. "They get caught up in the

nets by their tails and fins. These nets are very cheap to buy and are so enormous that they cover huge areas of the sea. The mesh is large so the smaller fish escape, but there's no way out for the swordfish and the dolphins."

Added Pierlorenzo Florio, spokesman for the World Wildlife Fund in Italy: "When the nets are brought in the dolphins that are already dead are mutilated, in an attempt to conceal the evidence from the authorities. The fishermen cut open their stomachs and fill them with bricks and rocks to send them down to the bottom of the sea. The ones that are still alive have their tails cut off to free them as quickly as possible from the nets. The poor beasts are left to die horribly, losing blood and screaming to warn others to keep away. Their bodies are later washed up on shore. It's a pitiful sight."

At a recent conference held in Rome, 400 international environmentalists warned that by the year 2000 there would be no dolphins left in Italian waters if steps were not taken soon to halt the massacre.

Ecology groups such as Greenpeace, the World Wildlife Fund and the Lega Per l'Ambiente

have launched a campaign to save the mammals, sending a petition to Italy's environment minister and to the European Community (EC). The petition calls for an immediate ban on the use of the killer nets. Italy's swordfish fleet is subsidised by both the Italian government and grants from the EC.

According to conservationists, the Italians are by far the worst offenders in Europe. "Italy alone is responsible for killing dolphins in the Mediterranean," said Florio. "We're the only country using these terrible nets on such a large scale. France has banned them altogether, and Spain has only a small fleet of 20 boats. In the Pacific Ocean, the Japanese are killing huge numbers, and about 10,000 dolphins a year are slaughtered by tuna fishermen in North American waters, but in Italy we are not so very far behind."

Official figures show that in just two years the Italian fleet has acquired a total length of 15,000 kilometres of swordfish nets. "That's enough to encircle the entire Italian coastline almost twice over," Florio noted.

Conservative estimates put the number of dolphins slaughtered

each year in Italian waters at around 4,000, but some experts say that the figure could be far higher. A fisherman caught with a dead dolphin in his nets off the Tyrrhenian coast recently admitted that in the course of a year the average crew could expect to maim and kill 10 dolphins as they become tangled in the nets. "It's not hard to make a calculation," said Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara, one of Italy's foremost experts on marine life. "If there are 700 swordfishing boats operating off the Italian coast, then it is reasonable to assume that around 7,000 dolphins die in this way each year."

Hundreds of other large mammals are also caught in the nets every year. During the summer the Greenpeace vessel "Highlander" found three dead sperm whales trapped in a net near the island of Ustica, off the coast of Sicily. During the same period, rescue workers freed eight half-crazed sperm whales from other nets off the Italian coast. The conservationists estimate that at least 200 other whales died.

Conservationists in other parts of the world have already made some progress. In the Indian Ocean the mega-nets are banned

altogether. The New Zealand government, locked in battle with Japanese and Taiwanese tuna fishermen in the Pacific, recently succeeded in having the issue tabled for discussion at the United Nations.

Back in Italy, the government has limited itself to blocking the licensing of new swordfishing vessels and banning the use of the big nets during the month of October. The second measure met with widespread derision.

"Fishing with these nets is only one between April and September, so banning it in October is really pretty useless," said Antonio di Natale, head of the Aquasud marine research institute in Messina, Sicily.

The dolphin is a protected species in Italy, and the penalty for killing one is high — up to one year in jail and a fine of 6 million lire (U.S.\$4,250). But catching the culprits is difficult. Most of the fishing for swordfish takes place outside the 12-mile limit, where Italian authorities have no jurisdiction.

"The fishermen are careful to bring in their nets before sailing back into territorial waters," said the World Wildlife Fund's Florio.

"Quite apart from the dolphins, a lot of the swordfish they capture are smaller than the limit of 1m 40 laid down by law. These people are hated by every other fisherman on the high seas. Their nets also cause a considerable danger to navigation, especially pleasure yachts, in the Mediterranean."

The waters off the southern regions of Sicily and Calabria are the most heavily fished areas, experts say. Here, nets as long as 40 kilometres (almost 25 miles) have replaced a traditional method that used a lookout perched 30 feet up on the mast to spot the swordfish and a harpoonist ready to spear the catch below.

Meanwhile, off Italy's north-western coast of Genoa, dolphins are facing another danger. In this part of the country, epicures like nothing better than to start off a meal with a plate of smoked dolphin. Said Florio, "Of course it's highly illegal, and happily it's not everyone that has such strange tastes, but a black market has developed to serve those who do. You can find it under the counter, at a very high price, in certain restaurants in and around Genoa." — World News Link.

S. Africa after the rally that wasn't

OFFICIALLY the African National Congress (ANC) remains a banned organisation in South Africa. But it is becoming increasingly difficult to reconcile this with everyday realities in the republic, especially after the mass rally staged in Soweto on Oct. 29.

South Africa's newest and largest football stadium became a sea of black, green and yellow ANC banners as about 85,000 supporters from all over the republic gathered to welcome back the leaders recently freed after 25 years in prison.

Ostensibly the rally was organised by a National Reception Committee and given the go-ahead by Johannesburg's chief magistrate on condition that no laws were broken.

But as the South African Press Association reported, there were obvious contraventions of several laws. And to all involved, the occasion appeared to represent the de facto unbanning of the ANC despite the Law and Order Minister's earlier pronouncements.

The Minister, Adriaan Vlok, said that the ANC was still a prohibited organisation, and the police would act if its aims were promoted at the rally. But at the stadium no attempt was made to disguise this fact.

The law was also defied when a message to the rally was read out from Oliver Tambo, President of the ANC in exile. According to Press reports, the gathering was the largest of its kind since the ANC was formed in 1912, and the first since its outlawing in 1960.

Although the rally was well-organised and passed off without incident, its implications were not lost across a broad spectrum of South African political opinion. Predictably, the right-wing Conservative Party exploded with anger and demanded the recall of Parliament for a special session. But the other Opposition party, the Democrats, praised the government for its "increasingly democratic approach" in allowing marches and gatherings which have previously been taboo.

A South African Council of Churches statement said the rally had proved that the State of Emergency was no longer necessary. Those who predicted chaos

had had to swallow their words and accept the fact that the people of South Africa were "committed to and ready for peace". Immediate government reaction was low-keyed. Mr. Vlok said that "peaceful" protest rallies enabled people to express their political opinions. Beeld, the leading Afrikaans-language daily newspaper, also commented approvingly.

But the pro-government Citizen was much sharper in its comment. It said that the hair-splitting over the exact purpose of the Soweto mass meeting could not disguise the fact that it was the first ANC rally in South Africa for three decades.

This raised the question of the ANC's status, and if the government no longer wished to maintain the present restrictions, it should unban the organisation, at least internally, the Citizen added.

However, the authorities are unlikely to accept this advice, given their repeated insistence that the ANC must first renounce violence. There is thus an apparent deadlock between the two sides.

The most prominent of the seven recently released leaders, Walter Sisulu, told the rally that there could be no question of the ANC abandoning the "armed struggle" unilaterally. But this was a possibility if the government created the right "climate".

Sisulu, who is aged 77, was the ANC's Secretary-General until he was jailed. Of the party's major figures imprisoned in 1964, only the most important, Nelson Mandela, now remains in detention. The timing of his release has become such a dilemma for the government that many are asking: Who is really the prisoner?

Another speaker at the Soweto rally, Ahmed Kathrada, made a dramatic plea to South Africa's dominant whites. "The Afrikaaner people have accepted and identified themselves with the continent of Africa," he said.

"They have called themselves Afrikaanders. We are saying to them: take the next step and identify yourselves with the people of this continent." — Lions Features.

Cela: The writer and the personality

By Alan Riding

GUADALAJARA, Spain — To a good many outsiders, the Swedish Academy was typically eccentric when it gave this year's Nobel Prize in Literature to a seemingly unknown Spanish writer, but mention Camilo Jose Cela to his countrymen and an anecdote soon follows.

For every Spaniard who has read one of his novels, perhaps 10 have skimmed his newspaper articles and 100 have seen him on television.

Probably few people could name his latest book, but who doesn't know that he recently set up house with an attractive woman less than half his age?

In Spain, at least, Cela the Personality — the sardonic iconoclast who loves to shock, provoke, anger and entertain — looms even larger than Cela the Writer.

Spaniards were proud that he won the Nobel Prize, but they

were no less amused that once again he had got what he wanted.

Cela himself seemed to take it all in stride. He has been something of a cult figure here ever since the publication in 1942 of his first — some say his best — novel, "La Familia de Pascual Duarte" ("The Family of Pascual Duarte"), which will be reprinted in English this year by Little, Brown.

Now, at the age of 73, the tall portly author is thoroughly used to being the centre of attention. Were you anxious to win the Nobel, he was asked after the announcement on Oct. 19.

"No more than other writers, with the only difference that I won it," he said, adding that a cable from Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the Colombian novelist and 1982 laureate, put it best: "Now you can taste the honey of not having to aspire to the Nobel."

Certainly, it was no secret that Cela yearned for the prize, above all after he was short-listed two

years ago.

Yet beyond granting him new recognition abroad, his Nobel has also embarrassed a local cultural establishment that repeatedly denied him the Cervantes prize, Spain's most prestigious literary award. And this clearly pleases Cela.

"I read a newspaper article the other day that said it doesn't matter now whether or not I win the Cervantes because it would be like giving the title of a count to a king," he said during a conversation at his home near Guadalajara.

"It's no longer worth discussing why I haven't received it."

Yet the reason he has been overlooked for the Cervantes prize is widely believed to be that he supported — and fought alongside — the fascist forces during the Spanish Civil War in the late 1930s and subsequently worked briefly as a censor of some small-circulation magazines under the Franco dictatorship.

This is also why he has long been viewed as an outsider by a Spanish literary and intellectual world that has traditionally leaned to the left. His writings, in fact, quickly displeased the dictatorship — "Pascual Duarte" and "La Colmena" ("The Beehive") were both banned for a while, but by then Cela had become a loner, almost quixotic in his individualism.

It is therefore probably no pose when he says, as he often does, that he is unmoved by what people say about him. For him, politicians, journalists, literary critics, intellectuals and most other authors — variously described as bureaucratic, stupid, opportunistic and mediocre — fall into the category of people who can be ignored.

Language is the instrument of the writer, he said. "Literature is the word and nothing else. The thinking of writers is in their books. In my case, that's where people should look. I don't have

time to answer coffee-shop gossip."

Cela's body of work over almost half a century is considerable, including not only 11 novels, travel books, memoirs and collections of essays but also two particularly unusual publications, "Diccionario Secreto" ("Secret Dictionary") and "Enciclopedia del Erotismo" ("Encyclopedia of Eroticism"), which reflect his fascination with the rich — but officially unrecognised — language of ordinary Spaniards.

In the "Diccionario Secreto," he compiled words and phrases — many vulgar, sexual or blasphemous — that are used every day but that are not acceptable in print. The "Enciclopedia del Erotismo" was in turn an anthology of erotic writings. Accused of setting out to scandalise, he retorted: "People are scandalised when they want to be scandalised."

Many literary critics, whose

opinions Cela values little, believe his main strength as an author is his use of language, not only when he appears to shock with its directness, but also in its richness and structure. His themes, he says, are universal, "love, life, death, sickness, misery, the same as everywhere else."

"A young man once said to Flaubert, 'Give me an argument and I'll write a novel,' Cela recounted. "Flaubert agreed and said: 'Write this down. A man and a woman love each other. That's the story. Now you have to provide the talent.' That's what I think. You need patience and minimal talent."

He also agreed with Garcia Marquez's claim that he had never had to invent anything in order to write his novels.

"You just have to look around to see that reality goes beyond fiction," Cela said.

"I think it was Proust who said

that everything has already been said but, since no one pays attention, it has to be repeated every morning."

When he writes a novel (he still does so in longhand), Cela said, he starts with a basic idea that frequently changes as he advances. "I prepared an entire synopsis of 'Pascual Duarte,' he recalled, "but after I had written the first chapter, I had gone off in a different direction, so it was no use at all."

Today, he has little time for anything but his own work. "Everyday I write more and read less," he said, "but I think that happens to all writers. We start by reading a lot and, as time passes, the balance changes. Anyway, I've done all the reading I need to do. I only read new books that are strongly recommended to me."

Among today's new Spanish writers, he said, he sees only two or three — he would not name them — with special talent.

Rather, he said, the great names of Spanish letters today remain those of writers from an earlier generation, like Torrente Ballester, Ana Maria Matute and Miguel Delibes, "who have still not been unseated."

Cela also expressed admiration for Latin American writers, among them the Mexican poet Octavio Paz, the Peruvian novelist Mario Vargas Llosa, and the late Mexican novelist Juan Rulfo, who was a personal friend. In contrast, he dismissed the late Argentine poet and essayist Jorge Luis Borges as a writer "for the petite bourgeoisie of Spanish America."

One apparent reason for Cela's popularity is that he has an opinion for every occasion and, twice a week on a television discussion programme, he pronounces gruffly and irreverently on every imaginable subject, reserving his most caustic wit for the Establishment windmills that many Spaniards enjoy seeing under attack.

— New York Times.

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Seminar stresses development in south Jordan

KARAK (Petra) — A two-day seminar opened at Mu'ta University in Karak Saturday to discuss various important matters related to the development of the southern regions of the Kingdom. A development council set up for the purpose is expected to be formed soon.

Planning Minister Ziyad Fariz, deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, opened the seminar with an address outlining the importance of the southern sector of the Kingdom in terms of economy and trade.

Nearly one third of the Kingdom's investments in the 1986-90 five year plan were allocated to projects in the south, corresponding to nearly JD 1,000 million, the minister said.

The southern regions of Jordan are rich with mineral resources like potash and phosphate and they serve as Jordan's main outlet to the outside world through the port city of Aqaba in the far south, the minister added.

This seminar is part of an ongoing effort by Mu'ta University to focus attention on the south and the work of the development council which is charged with

Dr. Sultan Abu Tayeh, who heads the university's business department, said the seminar was aimed at helping the development council attain success in its task. Throughout its research work and surveys conducted in the various regions of the south,

Mu'ta University hopes to lend helping hand to the council to execute its mission, Abu Tayeh added.

Abu Tayeh told the meeting that the participants will review 16 working papers dealing with

regional development in general and ways to exploit water, phosphate, potash, transport and tourist potentials and to promote institutions involved in mother and child care, voluntary services, youth and sports and co-operatives.

British, Austrian trade teams discuss investments in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Saturday urged Britain to increase its imports of Jordanian products in a bid to partially adjust the trade balance between the two countries which is heavily in favour of the United Kingdom.

The call was voiced by Mohammed Asfour, president of the Amman Chamber of Commerce,

at a meeting with a British trade delegation with whom he reviewed means of developing bilateral trade ties and various economic relations.

Asfour and the visiting delegation explored possible joint projects which could be launched in Jordan benefiting from

Jordanian laws which encourage investments and offer diversified facilities and tax exemptions.

The delegation groups representatives of British firms manufacturing glass, textiles, medical appliances, chemical products and other agricultural and industrial equipment.

Asfour later met with an Austrian trade mission which comprises representatives of 10 Austrian companies. Discussions covered investments in Jordan and the prospect of increasing the number of Austrian tourists to Jordan.

Recently, Jordan and Austria

agreed to dispatch a weekly chartered plane carrying tourists to Jordan to visit touristic and archaeological sites and the city of Aqaba.

According to officials here, the Austrian delegation comprises specialists in railway engineering, electric power engineering, thermal insulation systems, meat processing, industrial and mining equipment, fruit juice production as well as banking services.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Asfour briefed the visitors on medium-size projects in Jordan where Austrian firms can launch joint ventures.

Hungary proposes debt-share swap

BUDAPEST (R) — Foreign Minister Gyula Horn said Friday Hungary was interested in lightening its debt burden by cutting interest rates and offering Westerners shares in Hungarian companies.

Horn said he had raised the idea in talks with West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who arrived in Hungary Thursday for a two-day official visit.

"Aside from reducing interest rates, in return for the redemption of debt we would like to give foreign capitalists certain shares in Hungarian companies," Horn told a joint news conference with Genscher.

"I am convinced this would not only ease our debt burden but also help foreign investors... the size of our debt makes it impossible for the country to invest much in restructuring," he said.

Genscher gave no reaction to the proposal but said a Dec. 13 meeting in Brussels of 24 Western countries which have pledged to support reforms in Poland and Hungary would be a moment of truth which must produce concrete results.

"People have been so busy patting Poland and Hungary on the back that their hands have become numb," he said.

According to multi-party democracy after four decades of Communist rule, Hungary has

since the 1970s and that the country was in fact more than \$2 billion deeper in the red than previously admitted.

Shortly after Horn spoke, the National Bank of Hungary detailed revised debt figures in a statement published through the state news agency MTI.

The bank listed total hard currency foreign debt as \$19.6 billion on Sept. 30 — a jump of \$2.3 billion on the \$17.3 billion published for the end of August.

But it also said the revised figures would not affect the bank's debt service obligations and that the schedule of medium- and long-term debt falling due over the next five years would remain unchanged.

Interest payments on Hungary's hard currency debt amount to between \$1.4 and \$1.5 billion a year.

Hungary is seeking a three-year agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which in May suspended a standby credit after Hungary failed to meet budget and current account targets.

European Commission President Jacques Delors suggested the idea in Budapest last week of a bridging loan to tide Hungary over until after multi-party elections next spring, the country's

But he also said such a loan, for which a figure of \$1 billion has been cited, would be possible only if a preliminary agreement was reached.

Western leaders who met in Paris last Saturday agreed to urge the IMF to reach agreement on economic reforms with Hungary and Poland by the end of this year.

Jordan, Iraq sign transport accord

AMMAN (J.T.) — Transport and Telecommunications Minister Hikmat Al Khamash returned to Amman from Cairo where he led Jordan's side to a general assembly meeting of the Arab Maritime Bridge Company (AMBC) which discussed promoting operations along the Aqaba-Nuweibeh sea-land route and tourism in Sinai and southern Jordan.

Khamash said the meeting, which ended Friday, has empowered the company's board of directors to hold its first meeting in Amman early next month. The AMBC, Khamash said in a statement upon his return, aims

to expand its activities to transport a larger volume of goods and passengers; and to promote its operations among various Arab countries.

The AMBC is operated jointly by Jordan, Iraq and Egypt through a fleet of ferry boats for the transportation of passengers and vehicles as well as goods between Aqaba in Jordan and Nuweibeh in Sinai.

During his stay in Cairo, Khamash held meetings with his Iraqi and Egyptian counterparts Mohammed Zubeidi and Suleiman Mitwalli, and signed an agreement with Zubeidi on the

transportation of goods and passengers by land between Jordan and Iraq.

The agreement aims to further facilitate transport between the two countries and provides for the exemption of Iraqi and Jordanian nationals from all entry fees, Khamash noted in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

He said that under the new agreement Iraq and Jordan will unify charges on the transportation of passengers and goods and through a joint committee will follow up the implementation of the agreement and deal with any obstacles impeding its path.

'Spend money to buy stability'

PEKING (R) — China's leaders are buying stability by ensuring that several million workers forced into redundancy under unpopular austerity measures have enough money for food, a senior trade union official said.

Releasing official figures for the first time, Chen Ji of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, told Reuters that about two to three per cent of the industrial workforce in major cities had been sent home since last year.

He estimated this totalled "several million" workers across China who had been made redundant by factories which had stopped or cut production for lack of funds, materials and buyers.

"Some workers feel this has happened very suddenly. They don't understand," said Chen, a deputy director of the federal

tion's central office.

Chen said dissatisfaction among workers following on the heels of mass demonstrations six months ago could not lead to the kind of changes sweeping Eastern Europe.

"No one can replace the Communist Party in China... Eastern Europe has different historical conditions," he said.

China's student-led protest movement, crushed by the army in Peking in June, had failed to bring out large numbers of workers on strike, Chen said.

"Workers do not support chaos," he added. "China's economy has become sick, it is true. But we still have confidence we can overcome this."

Sectors worst affected by the austerity programme launched 15 months ago were car manufacturers, the construction industry,

textile and machinery factories and makers of consumer goods.

"In China we have a saying — spend money to buy stability," said Chen.

He disclosed that the government would make sure with subsidies that the per capita monthly income for families in major cities would not fall below 50 yuan (\$13.5).

"If we take these measures there won't be any social instability," Chen said. He described it as "big financial burden" but did not disclose the overall cost to the government.

Chen recognised that 50 yuan a month in Peking was barely enough to eat with.

Diplomats and Western businessmen backed Chen's view that industrial unrest was unlikely to erupt in China, at least in the near future, but they said efficiency would fall as workers found little incentive to perform well.

Striking workers would find little support in the trade union federation which is loyal to the Communist Party.

Workers interviewed in Peking have said they are being driven to the wall by the austerity measures, their plight worsened by recent compulsory purchases of government bonds.

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarizes trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Nov. 18, '89 and ending Wednesday Nov. 23, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	2700	6264	2.320	2.320	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	7866	10594	1.350	1.350	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	9250	18829	1.990	2.040	1.000
Housing Bank	3250	9425	2.900	2.900	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	5.000
Cairo Amman Bank	—	—	—	—	5.000
Bank of Jordan	1315	18348	14.000	14.100	5.000
Arab Bank	3060	643365	213.000	212.000	10.000
Jordan National Bank	15369	38480	2.510	2.510	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Financial Investments	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	244972	476913	1.960	1.970	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	500	1260	2.600	2.520	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2.000
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Middle East Insurance	36200	68805	1.900	1.900	1.000
Jordan French Insurance	14264	26331	1.870	1.850	1.000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	626	1201	1.760	1.900	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	4005	6008	1.450	1.500	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	439	579	1.270	1.320	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	755	1170	1.550	1.550	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	8225	13324	1.620	1.620	1.000
General Arabia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Ahlia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Services and industries					
General Investments	—	—	—	—	1.000
Imma for Investment and Financial Facilities	—	—	—	—	1.000
Darso for Housing and Investment	24616	23353	1.030	1.020	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaba)	58650	35442	0.600	0.630	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	39444	15383	0.390	0.390	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	19000	3230	0.670	0.670	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajeroo	3850	1398	0.870	0.870	1.000
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	3653	5043	1.380	1.380	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	150	99	0.720	0.650	1.000
Arab International Hotels	121523	189480	1.600	1.590	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	1750	7880	4.600	4.500	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	105109	287619	2.710	2.700	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Dairy	57275	82090	1.420	1.430	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	53964	273013	5.000	5.130	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	140500	396568	2.800	2.790	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	4856	20430	4.200	4.250	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Itaja)	321340	842212	2.510	2.690	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	700	4480	6.500	6.400	1.000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Aladdin Industries	31200	108610	3.450	3.500	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	127643	327923	2.620	2.580	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	13550	40542	3.000	3.000	1.000
Chemical Industries	4250	12243	2.950	2.790	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	24233	38148	1.590	1.570	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	23463	81401	3.600	3.590	1.000
National Steel Industries	21586	59114	2.720	2.790	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	6750	30322	4.450	4.490	5.000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	1645	13120	8.000	7.970	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	49900	7485	0.150	0.150	1.000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	6100	2419	0.410	0.400	1.000
Arab Investment and International Trade	110457	66029	0.560	0.610	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	19450	66259	3.380	3.410	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	57275	192753	3.420	3.350	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	1150	7103	6.540	6.150	1.000
Jordan Rockwood Industries	54700	120617	2.190	2.210	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	100	100	0.920	1.020	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Orion Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tanning	600	1212	2.050	2.020	5.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	1.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	503054	1188125	2.270	2.450	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	4600	18528	4.080	4.020	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	280369	771186	2.650	2.750	1.000
Jordan Sulphur & Chemicals	167147	472467	2.790	2.790	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	99710	98659	0.990	1.000	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	266159	378189	1.340	1.440	1.000
Jordan Precast Concrete Industry	271638	166996	0.600	0.610	1.000
Grand total	3,455,905	7,801,546			

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

FAO conference seals \$569m budget

ROME (R) — The governing conference of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Friday approved its two-year programme of work and a budget of \$569 million. The 158-nation supreme governing body voted 104 in favour and seven against for the 1990-1991 plan, and budget presented by FAO Director-General Edouard Saouma. There were five abstentions, a FAO statement said. Saouma called the plan a "full agenda of action" to face the world food and agriculture situation. The budget includes a net reduction of 25 administrative posts and an increase of 1.5 per cent in major programmes in agriculture, fisheries and forestry. The statement said the conference expressed concern over the \$170 million in outstanding contributions, including \$143 million by the United States, FAO's largest contributor.

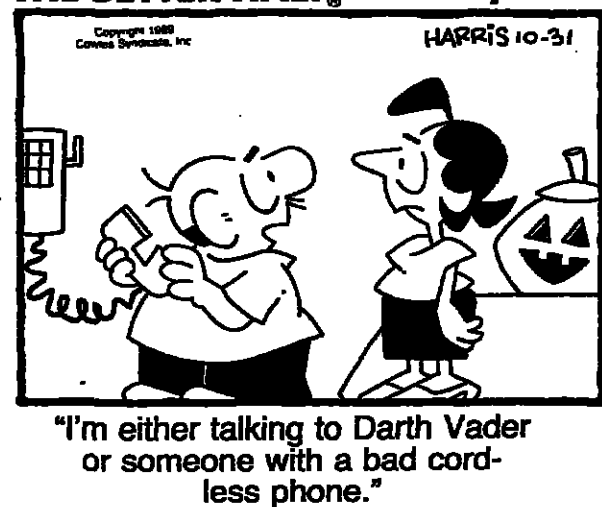
E. Germany weighs new mark rate

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany said Friday the official exchange rate of its currency with the West German mark was unrealistic and proposed a drastic adjustment. Finance Minister Uta Nickel said East Berlin was considering a benchmark rate of 4.4 East marks for one West German mark, but she denied this would turn the East mark into a convertible currency, which would probably mean a major devaluation. Nickel said the current rate of one to one and the black market rate of 20:1 prevailing since East Germany opened its borders were both unrealistic. She said a 4.4-one rate was being considered for people wanting to buy West marks before visits to West Germany. "We would simply be levying a charge to stabilise the interplay between the East mark and Deutsche mark. This would not be called an exchange rate. Perhaps we would call it a fee," she was quoted as saying. The government Friday introduced tougher customs checks to stop rampant currency speculation and goods smuggling, that started when the borders opened Nov. 9. The black market activity has seen a drastic slump in the East mark's black market value.

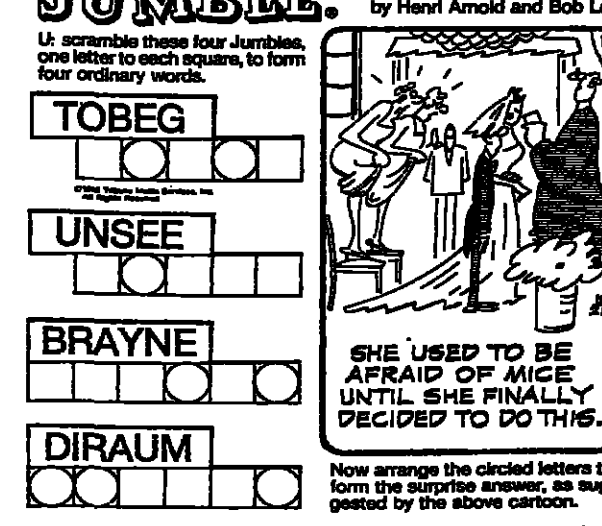
EXCHANGE RATES

Friday November 25, 1989		Central Bank official rates	
	Sell	Buy	
U.S. dollar	246.0	104.2	105.2
Japanese yen (for 100)	315.0	318.1	
Pound Sterling	1000.4	1010.4	
Deutsche mark	355.4	359.0	
Swiss franc	297.5	401.5	
French franc	—	—	104.2
Dutch guilder	—	—	315.0
Swedish krona	—	—	99.8
Italian lira (for 100)	—	—	48.2
Belgian franc	—	—	167.9

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



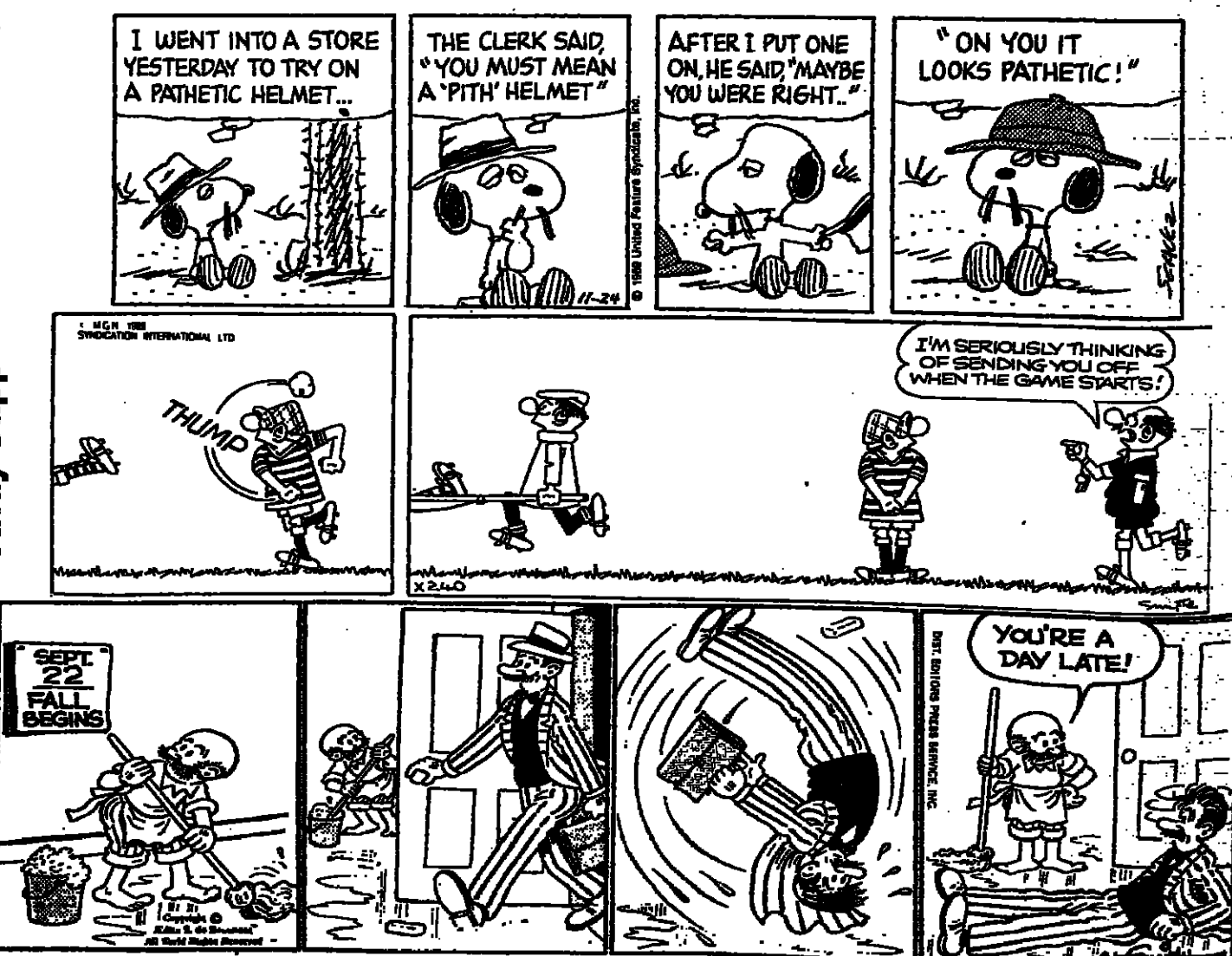
Print answer here: (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: GROIN HYENA KITTEN RECTOR
Answer: They've improved the trains to Washington so that the politicians can now do this—GET ON THE RIGHT TRACK

Peanuts

Andy Capp

Mutt'n' Jeff



JPP 150

Masters tournament completes long run in New York

By Larry Fine
Reporter

NEW YORK — The Masters tennis tournament, the star-studded championship that traditionally marks the end of the men's season, begins its farewell New York showing on Tuesday at Madison Square Garden.

The \$3-million Masters, which has called New York its home for the last 12 years, will move next year to Frankfurt, West Germany, for a five-year run as part of the new Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) tour.

Helping to make this last tournament of the decade extra special will be New Yorker John McEnroe, playing before home fans in his first Masters since

January 1986.

The 30-year-old McEnroe, who has climbed to number four in the world, is in the Rod Laver group of the Round-Robin event along with world number one Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and fellow Americans Michael Chang and Aaron Krickstein.

Defending champion Boris Becker of West Germany, winner of this year's Wimbledon and U.S. Open titles, heads the Ilie Nastase group that also includes Stefan Edberg of Sweden and Americans Andre Agassi and Brad Gilbert.

Each player will play the three others in his group, with the top two from each group advancing to the semifinals to be held in Saturday. The final is on Sunday.

Last year's final was perhaps the most memorable in the 19-year history of the elite championship as Becker beat Lendl in five grueling sets, with the last point of the match being decided when the ball plopped over the net tape to end a tie-break.

The victory served notice that the West German could defeat

the world's best on a surface other than the friendly, fast grass at Wimbledon and the result presaged a breakthrough year for Becker, who added the U.S. Open crown — beating Lendl in the final — to his three Wimbledon titles.

Tuesday's programme begins with world number three Edberg

playing number six Agassi. Australian Open champion Lendl follows on to the medium-fast supreme court carpet against French Open champion Chang, with Becker bringing down the curtain on opening night against Gilbert.

McEnroe swings into action on Wednesday against Krickstein.

Chang, 17, said he was looking forward to making his Masters debut. "The Masters is going to be fun," he said.

"The best players in the world are there and you don't have to worry about losing early. Top players like to play top players — they get more psyched up to play."

Villa marches on with 7th win in 8 games

LONDON (R) — Goals in each half from striking partners David Platt and Tony Daley swept Aston Villa to a 2-0 victory at Wimbledon on Saturday and into a three-way tie at the top of the English first division.

Rejuvenated Villa, who narrowly avoided relegation last season, outplayed their London hosts and went ahead in the 23rd minute when New England striker Platt flicked home Daley's pinpoint cross.

Daley added the second seven minutes from time to leave Villa level on 27 points with leaders Arsenal, who play Liverpool on Sunday, and second-placed Chelsea, who drew 0-0 at Manchester United. The trio are three points clear of fourth-placed Liverpool.

It was Villa's seventh win in eight games and one they richly deserved with former England

player Gordon Cowans supplying plenty of inspiration and endeavour in midfield.

But Everton's jinx at Nottingham Forest's City ground continued when they lost 1-0 for the second time in four days, this time to a Nigel Clough penalty midway through the second half. Everton have only won twice in 27 visits to Forest.

Southampton found their best scoring form as they dismantled Luton 6-3 but Tottenham's miserable home run continued with a 2-1 defeat at White Hart Lane against Derby County.

Tottenham, who have won six of their last seven away games, went ahead through a Paul Stewart goal after just four minutes.

It was the first goal Derby had conceded in four games. But Welsh midfielder Dean Saunders equalised with his 12th goal of the season six minutes after the inter-

val and Paul Goddard netted the winner in the 76th minute.

Forest, who beat Everton in the league cup on Wednesday thanks to a late controversial Lee Chapman goal, snatched victory from the penalty spot in the 61st minute on Saturday after midfielder Steve Hodge had been floored by Martin Keown.

Chelsea striker Kerry Dixon nearly secured a victory for his side at Old Trafford which would have left them the outright leaders of the first division. With five minutes remaining he was sent clear by Mick Hazard only to hit his first shot against United goalkeeper Jim Leighton. Then his second effort was cleared off the line by defender Steve Bruce.

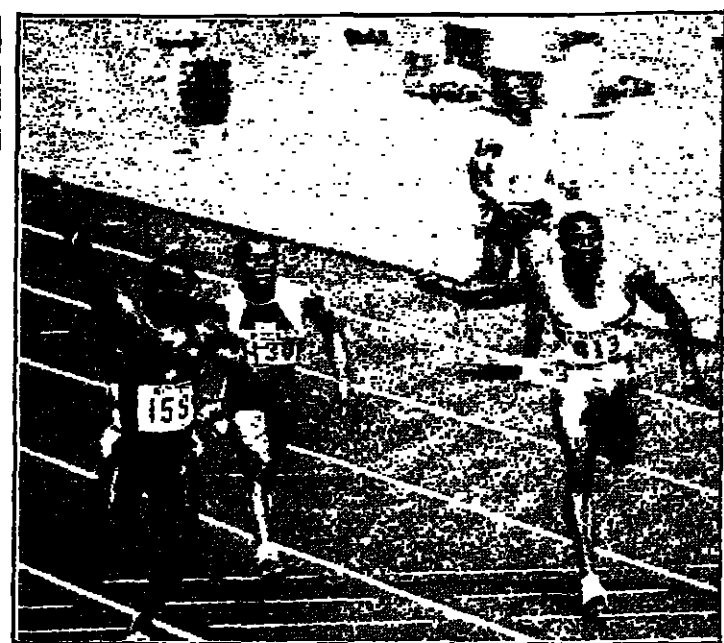
Southampton climbed to fifth place in the standings after emerging triumphant from a

nine-goal thriller with Luton. Former Villa striker Paul Rideout opened the scoring in the second minute before John Dryer drilled home an equaliser from 25 yards midway through the first half.

Mathew le Tissier's eighth goal of the season restored Southampton's lead four minutes before halftime but Kingsley Black equalised again.

Winger Rodney Wallace then put the hosts 3-2 up before the floodgates opened with three more goals from Wallace, Alan Shearer and Rideout in the last 10 minutes. Dane Lars Elstrup hit Luton's third five minutes from time.

But it was former European champions Villa, chasing their first league title since 1981, who had most to celebrate.



Ben Johnson (left) wins the 100 metre race at Seoul Olympics on Sept. 24, 1988 (File photo)

Johnson rehabilitated?

PARIS (R) — Ben Johnson heard in a face-to-face television discussion that a leading International Olympic Committee (IOC) official wants him to compete at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

"I wish him back at the next Olympics. He helped us a lot in our fight against doping," IOC medical commission president Prince Alexandre de Merode said in front of Johnson during the recording of a French television show on doping which ended early on Saturday.

"Johnson has given the worst example in the history of sports," de Merode added. "But this is past and we have to look forward to the future. If criminals can be rehabilitated, Johnson should be."

Johnson, paid \$25,000 to appear on the programme with de Merode and other athletes, again confessed to using drugs for years before he was caught with traces of the anabolic steroid stanozolol in his body after his 100 metres victory in Seoul.

"When I was 19 I was told everyone took dope and it was my only chance to become a champion," said the Jamaican-born Canadian. "I was not afraid of tests. I did not realise what I was doing. Now I'm ashamed, for my family, my friends and the children who admired me."

Johnson also heard from athletes who said they felt betrayed

by his cheating. French 100 metres record holder Laurence Billy told him: "You broke my dreams."

Johnson will be eligible to compete again late next year once a two-year ban imposed by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) was expired. But he remains barred for life by the Canadians, a ban which could keep him out of the 1991 world championships and 1992 Olympics.

East German swimmer Cristina Knacke, 100 metres butterfly bronze medalist at the 1990 Moscow Olympics, also confirmed recent reports that East German athletes were forced to take steroids.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You will have lots of interest in making some new conditions that interest you, come true and you would be wise to carefully consider them and not let your enthusiasm run away with you.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You are about to meet an interesting couple from a distance. A financial problem has a real opportunity for you to benefit through it.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Don't let financial matters confuse a relationship with a good friend. Get a family member to go on a trip with you and good results follow.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Get a woman friend to introduce you to some personalities that interest you. Keep strictly business like with a younger associate in the family.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Don't get involved in an argument between a partner and an influential man. Being demanding with your attachment now could cause trouble.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A friend is ready and willing at last to carry through with promises made to you. Do something startling and dramatic to please your loved one.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Invite new acquaintances into your home on the spur of the moment. Search periodicals for the answers to your practical problems.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You can get any problems at home ironed out right now. You need to be very cautious in any business or financial dealings.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Invite persons into your home who are financially successful. Do something with your attachment for more happiness.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Get a well organized businessman to advise you now. Confusion at home is best handled by your being quiet for a while.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Steer clear of any arguments whatever with men friends today. Romance is best for you now in the privacy of your loved one's quarters.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Try to follow the practical suggestions given by a confidential advisor. Invite a dramatic couple into your home for laughs.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) A restrictive man could keep you from a business opportunity. Concentrate on dealing with younger members of your family.

TODAY'S CHILD: If your child were born today he or she can expect to have those in authority take a definite interest in them. The job of this progeny's parents will be to insure that this child gets the right kind of education and stays in school until they have received the proper credentials to establish themselves in the world.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

THE Daily Crossword

by Fred Toole

1 Across	1 Down	2 Across	2 Down	3 Across	3 Down	4 Across	4 Down	5 Across	5 Down	6 Across	6 Down	7 Across	7 Down	8 Across	8 Down	9 Across	9 Down	10 Across	10 Down	11 Across	11 Down	12 Across	12 Down	13 Across	13 Down	14 Across	14 Down	15 Across	15 Down	16 Across	16 Down	17 Across	17 Down	18 Across	18 Down	19 Across	19 Down	20 Across	20 Down	21 Across	21 Down	22 Across	22 Down	23 Across	23 Down	24 Across	24 Down	25 Across	25 Down	26 Across	26 Down	27 Across	27 Down	28 Across	28 Down	29 Across	29 Down	30 Across	30 Down	31 Across	31 Down	32 Across	32 Down	33 Across	33 Down	34 Across	34 Down	35 Across	35 Down	36 Across	36 Down	37 Across	37 Down	38 Across	38 Down	39 Across	39 Down	40 Across	40 Down	41 Across	41 Down	42 Across	42 Down	43 Across	43 Down	44 Across	44 Down	45 Across	45 Down	46 Across	46 Down	47 Across	47 Down	48 Across	48 Down	49 Across	49 Down	50 Across	50 Down	51 Across	51 Down	52 Across	52 Down	53 Across	53 Down	54 Across	54 Down	55 Across	55 Down	56 Across	56 Down	57 Across	57 Down	58 Across	58 Down	59 Across	59 Down	60 Across	60 Down	61 Across	61 Down	62 Across	62 Down	63 Across	63 Down	64 Across	64 Down	65 Across	65 Down	66 Across	66 Down	67 Across	67 Down	68 Across	68 Down	69 Across	69 Down	70 Across	70 Down	71 Across	71 Down	72 Across	72 Down	73 Across	73 Down	74 Across	74 Down	75 Across	75 Down	76 Across	76 Down	77 Across	77 Down	78 Across	78 Down	79 Across	79 Down	80 Across	80 Down	81 Across	81 Down	82 Across	82 Down	83 Across	83 Down	84 Across	84 Down	85 Across	85 Down	86 Across	86 Down	87 Across	87 Down	88 Across	88 Down	89 Across	89 Down	90 Across	90 Down	91 Across	91 Down	92 Across	92 Down	93 Across	93 Down	94 Across	94 Down	95 Across	95 Down	96 Across	96 Down	97 Across	97 Down	98 Across	98 Down	99 Across	99 Down	100 Across	100 Down
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Saturday's Puzzle Solved:

WASER RIVY TONIL
ELATE PIER GORE
BISSECLARSONDWIN
SHIP UOMA MABINED
THAT GARS
REARER RECAURE
QINA ERECT SEM
WEIGHTYRATEDARE
AME ARRIS AGAR
DIBETED NAPER
DEAT DUT
ASSET DOME RED
HAMSTRAND WOOD
LGER DORE SAUER
LAGS EREN ESTER

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

TOO EASY TO MAKE

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♦ A J 6
♥ K 8 7
♦ K 8 5
♣ Q 7 4 2

WEST ♦ Q 9 4 2
♥ 6
♦ J 10 9 3
♣ A K 8 5

EAST ♦ K 10 8 7
♥ 9 5 3
♦ Q 4
♣ J 10 9 3

SOUTH
♦ 5 3
♥ A Q J 10 4 2
♦ A 7 6 2
♣ 5

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
1 NT Pass 4 ♥ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠
How often do you see an infidel make a spectacular play and then, a few ground balls later, miff a simple effort? It was so easy that he took his eye off the ball. The same thing happens at the bridge table.

The bidding was routine, although we would be the first to admit a rebid of three no trump by South has certain appeal. At rubber bridge, however, the possession of 100 honors would sway us to four hearts.

On the opening lead of the king

of clubs, East started an echo with the jack to show a four-card holding in the suit. West shifted to the jack of diamonds, and declarer wasted no time in going down. He won in hand, drew three rounds of trumps and then continued with a diamond to the king and another. When that suit split 4-2, the most likely distribution, declarer ended up losing two diamonds and a trick in each black suit—down one.

Had declarer paused to count the available tricks off the top, he would have realized there were only nine—six trumps, a spade and two diamonds. The simplest way to produce a 10th was to ruff a diamond in dummy.

Therefore, declarer could not afford to draw more than one round of trumps, and that with a high trump in hand. Next, South should cash the remaining high diamond and exit with a diamond. No matter what the defenders do, declarer can win any return, if necessary come to hand with a club ruff or a high trump, and then ruff a diamond with the king of trumps for the fulfilling trick.

On the opening lead of the king

THE GALLERY

Invites you to view a collection of watercolours of Amman and other sights by Jordanian artist.

Ahmad Ismaiel

on display Sat. 25th Nov., through Thurs. 7th Dec. 1989.

The Gallery Tel. 641361 ext. 2183
Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental, Amman.
Open daily 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Closed on Friday.

DELUXE FURNISHED HOUSE FOR RENT

Ground floor, with garden, telephone and central heating; fully equipped and nicely furnished. Consists of 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms etc.
Area 350 sq. metres approx.
Location: Jabal Amman - Second Circle.

Please contact tel. 642835 from 10 - 12 a.m., and 3:30-6:00 p.m.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental has an opening for:
— Sales Secretary: fluent in English-written and spoken, have ability to take shorthand, typing minimum 45 wpm, should be capable of maintaining efficient filing system and good knowledge of office procedures.

If you feel you meet the above requirements, please apply in person at the Personnel Department of the hotel.

Cinema Tel: 625155

RAINBOW

CROCODILE DUNDEE Part II

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 677420

CONCORD

Michael Keaton
in
THE SQUEEZE

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 634144

PHILADELPHIA

MICKI & MAUDE

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 675571

NIJOUN

BATMAN

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 674111

PLAZA

FATAL ATTRACTION

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

LOW PRICES

Winter and sport clothes for all the family

LACOSTE, benetton, BOSS, NIKE, adidas

Training Suits: JD 10.000 - 12.000 - 14.000 - 15.000 - 17.000
Pullovers: JD 5.000 - 6.000 - 7.000 - 8.000 - 9.000
Shirts: JD 5.000 - 6.000 - 7.000
T-Shirts: JD 4.000 - 5.000 - 6.000

in addition to a wide variety of sport clothes and jeans.

SUBAH FOR GARMENTS

6th Circle - Bayader Wadi El Seer, main street,
Opp. the Mosque — Tel. 823485

HANDICRAFTS

An exhibition displaying handicraft articles particularly gobelins and flowers will be inaugurated on the 26th Nov. 1989 at 17.00 by Mr. Miles Roddis — the Director of the British Council.

The display will take place at the British Council at Jabal Amman - Rainbow Street until 29.11.89. The invitation is public.

ENJOY AN INTIMATE CANDLE LIGHT DINNER in elegant surroundings

BRENZO

Italian restaurant, Jabal Amman - between 5th, 6th circle, Tel. 821985

Indians protest against election violence, vote rigging and intimidation

NEW DELHI (AP) — Hundreds of people blocked roads and demonstrated Saturday outside the Election Commission offices to protest violence, vote rigging and intimidation in the parliamentary election.

The demonstration was organized by Independent Initiative, a group that claims to be non-partisan, although most of its slogans criticized Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and his governing Congress Party.

The elections, which end Sunday and will determine whether Gandhi remains in power, are shaping up as the most violent in India's history.

At least two more deaths were reported in Friday's voting, bringing to 94 the number of people killed since the elections for a new parliament began Wednesday. Voting is still to be completed in two of the most volatile regions of the country.

Voting will take place Sunday in the northern state of Punjab where Sikh separatists have killed at least 1,650 people this year and in eastern Bihar state where violence between Hindus and Muslims has left at least 300 people dead in the past six weeks.

Election workers will begin counting the votes Sunday morning, with the first results expected Sunday night after the polls close in Bihar, Punjab and tiny Sikkim.

"It is the bloodiest election I have seen," said Inder Mohan a political activist on a hunger strike outside the headquarters of the Election Commission, the watchdog body for the polls. "It is also the saddest because most of the violence seems to have been perpetrated by the Congress."

Mohan, 69, says he is on a hunger strike in protest against the Congress Party's "general attack on the right to vote." Next to him, groups of people chanted, "Rajiv Gandhi, come to your senses."

The Congress Party has said that such allegations are part of an orchestrated campaign to malign the party and a smokescreen to cover up the opposition's violent electoral tactics.

In an editorial, the independent Times of India newspaper said Saturday the "progressive induction of money muscle and power to influence the electoral verdict" was rendering the polls meaningless.

The opposition contends that Congress Party workers instigated violence and rigged votes across the country, including in Amethi, Gandhi's own constituency. The Election Commission, has said the charges will be investigated, the results withheld if the inquiries are not completed and a revote ordered if necessary.

Calling the elections in Amethi a "national disgrace," the usually conservative Times of India said: "If this is the example set in the prime minister's own constituency, he is left without moral authority to control the hoodlums and mafia dons who make a mockery of the democratic process in other parts of the country."

On Friday, at least 41 people were killed as voting was held in 266 of the 524 constituencies at stake. On Wednesday, when 221 constituencies voted, at least 48 people were killed. Five others were killed Thursday in lingering disputes from Wednesday's voting.

The Election Commission has ordered a revote in 930 of the country's 590,000 polling booths after deciding that fraud had been committed.

Rights group accuses Salvadorean government, rebels of killing civilians

SAN SALVADOR (AP) — A human rights monitoring group has released a report accusing both the government and the rebels fighting it of causing civilian deaths during the guerrillas' two-week-old offensive.

The report, released Friday by Americas Watch, said the armed forces "engaged in targeted killings, arbitrary detentions of non-combatants and torture," while it chided the rebels "for using civilians as shields."

Also Friday, Salvadorean legislators debated a proposed law that would curb activities by union, peasant and human-rights groups, and officials said a witness to last week's killing of six Jesuit priests and two other people had fled the country.

The Americas Watch report, called "carnage again," said the air force "as far as it is possible to determine, caused great loss of civilian life by indiscriminate aerial attacks in slum neighborhoods."

It criticized both sides for "impeding medical care for the wounded," who could not be

evacuated because of the heavy fighting in San Salvador. Americas Watch also contended that the offensive led to human rights violations by the military as "government forces apparently took advantage of the fighting to settle old scores."

It cited a series of raids on churches and church-run shelters, the slaying of the Roman Catholic priests, death threats to church officials and the arrests and expulsions of foreign church workers.

The report also raised questions about how the investigation was proceeding into the slayings of six Jesuit priests, alleged by two witnesses to have been committed by men wearing the salvadorean army uniforms. The inquiry is being conducted by rightist President Alfredo Cristiani's government.

"As commander-in-chief of the Salvadorean Armed Forces, President Cristiani should be able to learn which unit patrolled the University of Central America Campus on the night of Nov. 15-16," the report contended.

KAL jet crashes in Seoul, 21 injured

SEOUL (R) — Twenty-one people were hurt when a Korean Air Lines (KAL) jet with 54 people on board crashed on take-off from Seoul's Gimpo Airport Saturday and caught fire, an airline spokesman said.

A KAL spokesman said several people had broken bones but no lives were in danger.

The crash of the Fokker F28 was KAL's second in four months. A DC-10 crashed in Tripoli on July 27, killing 74 of the 199 people on board and another six people on the ground.

The aircraft was about 10 metres off the ground when passengers said there was a bang from one of the rear-mounted engines.

The right engine lost power, the right wing dipped and clipped the ground and the aircraft smashed into flames, airline spokesman Lee Taek-Young said.

KAL originally said 52 people had been on board but later added two infant children to the passenger list. Only four non-Koreans, two Australians and two French nationals, were on board the flight to Kangnung on the east coast.

On Tuesday, South Korea's Transport Ministry ruled pilot error caused the Libyan crash. KAL said it would fire the pilot and flight engineer and charge them with negligence and accidental homicide.

Lee said an investigation into Saturday's crash would take about a month.



The 12,000-tonne missile cruiser Slava is seen moored in Sevastopol Naval Base.

Summit ship transits Bosphorus

ISTANBUL (R) — The Soviet missile cruiser Slava, which will co-host next week's superpower summit in the Mediterranean, passed through Turkey's Bosphorus waterway Saturday heading for Malta.

The huge warship was escorted by the Soviet patrol ship Pytliv as it passed through Istanbul, which

straddles the Bosphorus, shortly after 8 a.m. (0600 GMT). A Turkish navy patrol boat followed the Pytliv and a white high-speed launch usually used by the Turkish secret services to shadow Soviet warships tailed it.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President George Bush will meet on board

the Slava (glory) and the U.S. cruiser Belknap near Malta on Dec. 2 and 3.

The Slava sailed from its home port of Sevastopol on the Black Sea Friday and after transiting the Bosphorus must pass the Sea of Marmara, the Dardanelles and the Aegean Sea before reaching the Mediterranean.

Marcos' close ally returns home

MANILA (AP) — One of Ferdinand Marcos' closest allies returned three years after he was banished, and a pro-Marcos politician Saturday offered him leadership of the opposition to President Corason Aquino.

Eduardo Cojuangco, a first cousin of Mrs. Aquino, arrived late Friday after three years exile in the United States, according to radio station DZRH, which broadcast an interview with him.

Cojuangco, 54, left the Philippines in February 1986 aboard the same American military plane that carried Marcos into exile in Hawaii, where he died on Sept. 28.

Cojuangco had been the symbol of "crony capitalism," a system in which associates of Marcos and his wife Imelda were given preferential treatment in establishing monopolies to control exports, manufacturing and other aspects of the economy.

Mrs. Aquino's staff appeared caught off guard by Cojuangco's

return. Assistant spokeswoman Lourdes Sytango said Cojuangco may have travelled under another name, since his real name did not appear on any rosters of flights arriving at Manila's airport.

Cojuangco told DZRH that he wanted to return to his homeland to clear his name of allegations that he helped Marcos in looting the Philippine treasury of billions before the late president was ousted in the 1986 "people power revolution."

"I am thankful that we have been able to come home because for a long time I have wanted to come back here," Cojuangco said. "And I thank the Almighty that I have been given the opportunity to return to my beloved motherland."

A presidential security official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Mrs. Aquino learned of her cousin's arrival only Saturday.

Cojuangco told DZRH that he

had been issued a passport by the Philippine consulate in Los Angeles. Presidential spokesman Adolfo Azcuna said the palace was unaware that any passport was issued.

Cojuangco's passport was cancelled in 1986, along with those of Marcos and his immediate family.

Mrs. Aquino has banned the Marcos family from returning and has refused to allow her predecessor's body to be buried in the Philippines, citing national security.

Congressman Rodolfo Albano, former minority leader in the House of Representatives, said Cojuangco's return would boost the opposition forces, still grasping for a leader since Marcos' death.

"If he will accept it, we will wholeheartedly give the opposition leadership to him," Albano said of Cojuangco. "We welcome him as the leading light of the opposition."

S. Africa opens some suburbs to all races

CAPE TOWN (R) — Four South African suburbs have been opened to all races for the first time since apartheid was introduced in 1948, but the government vowed to retain segregation for those unwilling to see it go.

Planning Minister Hennis Kriel has announced that a district in central Cape Town, two suburbs outside Johannesburg and an area of the Indian Ocean port of Durban would be thrown open to residents of all races.

But he said the government would protect the rights of whites who wanted to live in racially exclusive enclaves and who wanted their children to go to all-white schools.

"People who want to live within their own communities must be given that right," Kriel said in a television interview.

Kriel's announcement was in line with President F.W. de Klerk's promise to eliminate some forms of segregation and increase the options open to South Africans.

De Klerk has already opened the country's beaches to all races and forced conservative white towns to open their shopping districts to black traders.

The announcement that blacks, whites, ethnic Indians and coloured (mixed race) people can be neighbours drew mixed reactions from opposition leaders and residents.

"We've been waiting for this for a very long time. Our future is bright," said Jaap Veen, a white resident of Windmill Park in the white town of Boksburg.

A black woman who has lived illegally in the same suburb for several months said she was delighted: "We are really very, very happy. This removes the uncertainty we faced."

Coloured (mixed-race) Labour Party leader Allan Hendrickse welcomed the announcement, but said he wanted to see all residential segregation abolished.

But Boksburg Mayor Beyers de Klerk said his Conservative Party council, which has fought for over a year to reimpose hard-line apartheid, was bitterly opposed to the plan.

"This is not free settlement, this is the betrayal of the land God gave us," he said in a television interview.

Anti-apartheid leaders rejected the plan as a sop designed to make residential segregation internationally acceptable.

"The majority of South Africans want all South Africa open to all South Africans," said Mass Democratic Movement spokesman Murphy Morobe.

Anwar Nagia, who heads a Cape Town campaign against segregated housing, said the compromise ignored the country's critical housing shortage and reinforced apartheid.

East German immigrants cause headaches for Bonn

BONN (R) — Among the enormous tide of East German visitors pouring into the West, 1,000 or more every day say they are not going back.

Although they comprise less than one per cent of the six million East Germans who have come to West Germany since the borders were flung open two weeks ago, the immigrants pose a big headache for Bonn.

"We just do not know where to put the people any more," said a social services official in the northern city of Hamburg. "Our chances of finding them all accommodation are catastrophic."

In November alone, more than 100,000 permanent settlers have arrived from East Germany, bringing the year's total to 275,000, the Ministry for Inter-German Affairs said.

At the beginning of the month nearly 40,000 fled via Czechoslovakia in just five days, and another big rush ensued when the border opened on Nov. 9. The

flow has now diminished but shows no sign of drying up altogether.

The city of Hamburg has already hired a couple of ships, caravans and a former sex shop to house them. In other parts of the country hotels, gyms and youth hostels have been taken over.

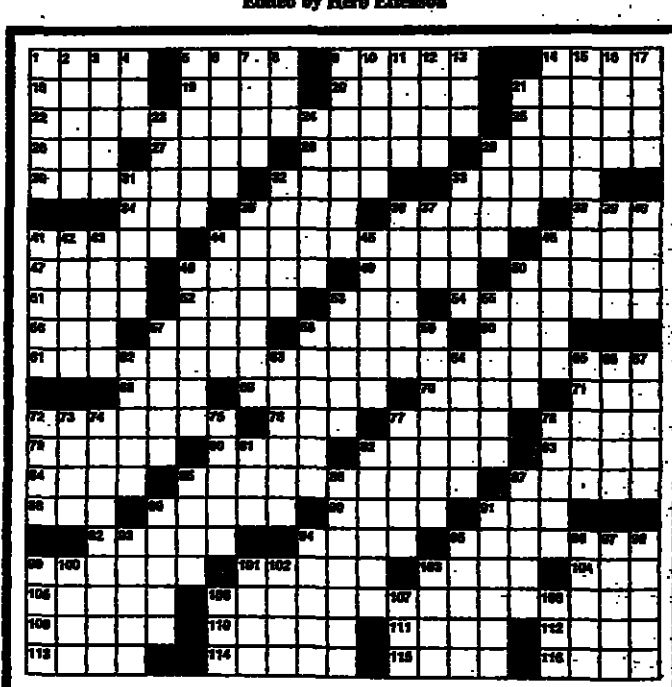
Economists have welcomed the influx of skilled labour for the economy, but others fear the East Germans will make competition for jobs fiercer and force wages down.

A survey by the Infas Research Institute released this week shows only 30 per cent of West Germans still think East Germans have a valid political reason for leaving their country for good, down from 58 per cent before the Berlin Wall was opened.

East German leader Egon Krenz's gamble in opening the borders was that once the people knew they could travel freely, they would not feel the need to flee.

THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Etkens



Last Week's Cryptograms

- Do all well-to-do people have to try very hard to do well?
- Young children wheeled in grocery carts shouldn't do cartwheels.
- My special thanks to pleasant wife who can deftly make life less dull.
- Best effort by amazingly adept designer only earned heavy prize for most inferior interior.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. J P Y R J G H E L L O Z S H R T U S I L L O Z S H
M E Z L S A Y I J K N L G U S H U E N E Z L M
A L T S A Z S H U S K U R E F R G O R E J G S U E L

—By Barbara J. Hugg

2. T E S I X B D E Z Z J T T E S Y H J A Z V L B C E L C B
H J A Z M Q E Y E B J K A M C D E C L Y Y D X K I L Y I
Q E S Y

—By Earl Ingham

3. T R U N K I A E N E R Y Z E D A M Z K E Z U V L M B I Z K I
B I R D T R O M Z L M S C R E E K B U R E N C
O C R E Z E

—By Lyle H. Jones

4. O C L X L T N S P O C T B R E W T O X G N E W T O E L
Y W L T F W N G N G R F F M O L G B E W T A Y C T A M

—By Gordon Miller

SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

1. J P Y R J G H E L L O Z S H R T U S I L L O Z S H
M E Z L S A Y I J K N L G U S H U E N E Z L M
A L T S A Z S H U S K U R E F R G O R E J G S U E L

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Antarctic expedition rescued

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A supply plane has rescued 17 stranded reporters and support workers from an Antarctic expedition and prepared to resume flights to six people crossing the continent by dog sleds and skis, a spokesman said. The 17 journalists, scientists and others who had been stranded at Antarctica's Patriot Hills arrived at the International Trans-Antarctica Expedition's base in Punta Arenas, Chile, about 9 a.m. local time (1200 GMT) after a seven-hour flight, said expedition spokeswoman Cathy de Moll in St. Paul, Minnesota. Members of the expedition come from the United States, Soviet Union, France, Great Britain, Japan and China. The expedition, led by Minnesota's Will Steger, is making its seven-month journey to bring world attention to Antarctica and to demonstrate the power of international cooperation. The adventurers began in July. They and their dogs were in good condition and until Friday had averaged 39 kilometres a day for the past week, de Moll said.

Ted Kennedy to visit Berlin

WEST BERLIN (R) — U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy, whose brother Jack electrified the people of West Berlin 26 years ago with his declaration "ich bin ein Berliner," will visit the city next week, diplomatic sources said Friday. They said Kennedy, a senator for Massachusetts, would make a brief visit to West Berlin and visit the now breached wall as a side trip during a congressional visit to Europe. The magic of the Kennedy name is still potent here. On June 26, 1963, two years after the Berlin Wall was built and just five months before his assassination, President John F. Kennedy came to West Berlin at a time when it was under intermittent Soviet pressure. He visited the wall and expressed his solidarity with West Berliners in words that raised a vast crowd to a frenzy of cheers, declaring: "Ich bin ein Berliner." — I am a Berliner.